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Mandela Defends Ties With Cuba and Libya

He Praises U.S., But Proclaims Independence

By R.W. Apple Jr.

CAPE TOWN - President Nelson Mandela of South Africa praised President Bill Clinton and some of his policies Friday as Mr. Clinton stood policies Friday as Mr. Clinton stood beside him in the midday sun, but he stoutly defended his right to remain friendly with nations the United States considers rogues, like Libya.

He also suggested, fondly but firmly, that "the United States, as the leader of

the world, should set an example to all of us" by reaching out to its enemies and saying, "Let's sit down and talk peace." The standing of the United States would be "tremendously en-hanced," he said. A South African minister explained later that he had been referring to Cuba, among others.

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Mr. Clinton listened intently, his face betraying no emotion. It was an extraordinary moment. The rules of the diplomatic game do not permit the leader of one country to lecture the leader of another. But Mr. Mandela has such towering, worldwide moral authority that the rules do not really apply to him, and American officials took no offense

Mr. Clinton has made it clear at every stop on his 12-day tour of Africa that the United States wanted full partnerships with the continent's young states, rather than the unequal relationships of the

Past. On Friday, Mr. Mandela, at 79 years old 28 years Mr. Clinton's senior, acted every bit his equal.

After a 90-minute meeting with Mr. Clinton and a joint news conference, Mr. Mandela gave Mr. Clinton an emotion-drenched tour of Robben Island, where he spent 18 years as a political prisoner during the apartheid era. From that confinement he emerged, as Mr. Clinton noted, "not in anger, but in hope, passion and determination to put things right," to become the first leader of newly democratic South Africa.

"When I come here," Mr. Mandela said after he and Mr. Clinton reached the island by helicopter, "I call back into memory that great saga in which the authorities, who were pitiless, insensitive and cruel, nevertheless failed in their evil intentions."

A bit shaky, Mr. Mandela needs help oing up and down stairs. But he was full of intellectual vigor as he answered questions at a news conference, Mr. linton's only one in Africa.

He was asked about the new African trade bill, passed by the House of Representatives this month. It has been widely criticized in South Africa as a barmful neocolonial initiative because it would require African nations to privatize their economies and liberalize their political systems in order to attain

See CLINTON, Page 4



Boris Yeltsin, left, and Sergei Kiriyenko in Moscow on Friday. The president warned he would dissolve the Duma if it rejected the nomination.

Combative Yeltsin Names Kiriyenko

President Formally Nominates Russia's Acting Prime Minister

By Alessandra Stanley
New York Times Service

MOSCOW - Impulsively and combatively, President Boris Yeltsin named Sergei Kiriyenko, a little-known technocrat, as the new prime minister of Russia on Friday and warned that he would disband Parliament if it rejected the nomination.

Mr. Kiriyenko, a reform-minded banker from Nizhni Novgorod who was named fuel and energy minister only four months ago, was hastily selected Monday after Mr. Yeltsin stunned the nation by firing his longtime prime min-ister Viktor Chernomyrdin. Mr. Yeltsin had initially announced

that he would act as prime minister until

a new one could be found. When panicked aides later explained that this was unconstitutional, Mr. Kir-

iyenko was given the job temporarily. Given the dearth of viable alternative candidates, many Russians suspected that Mr. Kiriyenko would receive the nomination for prime minister. But the slight, bespectacled 35-year-old was nevertheless an astonishing choice.

Like many of today's young business and government leaders, Mr. Kiriyenko joined the Communist Party in his youth and worked in the Komsomol youth league. But when the Soviet Union collapsed, he nimbly made the transition to capitalism. He helped found a bank in Nizhni Novgorod, an early laboratory for economic reform, and briefly headed the nation's third largest refinery, Norsi Oil. He represents a radically different generation than his predecessor, Mr. Chernomyrdin, 59, who never entirely shook off his Soviet mentality.

So far, Mr. Kiriyenko has proved

sober and self-effacing. Amid the clatter of commentary and speculation that followed his nomination, he declined to name future cabinet appointees, or even speak of his own nomination in the first person. Asked repeatedly about the composition of his cabinet, Mr. Kiriyenko replied quietly, "There is no point in talking about personalities before the prime minister's candidacy is formally approved.'

Mr. Yeltsin fired Mr. Chernomyrdin partly because he and his aides worried

that if the stolid, uncharismatic former chairman of Gazprom stayed in the job, he would be seen as Mr. Yeltsin's anointed successor in the 2000 presidential elections — and could well lose

to a more inspiring challenger. By selecting Mr. Kiriyenko, the president was not so much selecting a dauphin as keeping the field open to other, more electable successors.

Stocks rise in Moscow. Page 13.

But there is a streak of recklessness to the strategy. If Mr. Yeltsin, whose health is not good, should die or become incapacitated, Mr. Kiriyenko would take over for three months until new elections are called. Mr. Yeltsin would leave the country - and the nuclear button in the hands of an untested neophyte.

Mr. Yeltsin, who fears becoming a lame duck, has not shut down efforts by some partisans to appeal to the constitutional court to allow him the option of seeking a third term. The choice of an unthreatening, interim figure like Mr.

See RUSSIA, Page 3

Swiss Urge U.S. to Drop Its Threats

Willingness to Negotiate

Holocaust Payment Cited

BERN -- Switzerland demanded Friday that U.S. municipal officials stop threatening the country with sanctions now that Swiss banks have agreed to what were termed "breakthrough" ne-gotiations for a global settlement of claims by Holocaust survivors and their

The major Swiss commercial banks banking circles cautioned against unrealistic expectations on the speed of a resolution to the claims, which date from World War II.

"Switzerland notes with satisfaction

Dutch government rejects a claim on art seized by the Nazis. Page 9.

that the Executive Monitoring Committee has recognized the exemplary measures of our country and thus has refrained from imposing sanctions," a government statement said.

It was referring to a panel of municipal financial officials in New York who decided Thursday to continue a suspension of sanctions on major Swiss banks after they agreed to negotiate.

"Because of this recognition, Switzerland fails to understand why the committee didn't completely lift the threat of sanctions," the government statement added.

Involved in the meeting were finance officials of New York City and key states that barred Swiss banks from govemment business last year to demand that they do more to return any assets of Nazi victims.

Last December the officials suspended the sanctions for three months to see what progress the banks were making. The Clinton administration, which

has praised Switzerland for its efforts, has repeatedly opposed the sanctions. The Swiss government and the American government agree that boycotts are counterproductive," the Swiss statement said. "Switzerland, therefore,

See BANKS, Page 2

Netanyahu Opts for the Middle Road

Again Seeking to Strike a Deal, Israeli Leader Meets U.S. Special Envoy yahu hoped to strike a bargain in which

By Doug Struck
Washington Post Service

JERUSALEM --- Twenty-two months after he was elected, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu remains the skilled tactician who seems constantly on the brink of disaster but always survives. Even now, as Mr. Netanyahu seems

caught between angering the U.S. gov-ernment or risking the fall of his own, friends and foes alike predict he will find a middle road that will please few but avoid political catastrophe.

To that end, Mr. Netanyahu met for

four hours Friday with President Bill Clinton's special envoy to the Middle

East, Dennis Ross, to try to fashion a compromise over how much more West Bank territory Israel is willing to cede to the Palestinian Authority. The Clinton administration is proposing 13.1 per-cent; Mr. Netanyahu has publicly

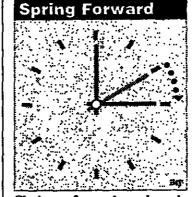
NEWS ANALYSIS

offered 9.5 percent. Neither official commented after the meeting.

But they scheduled another meeting for Saturday after Mr. Ross has had a chance to confer with Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, in Ramallah and President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt in Cairo. Israeli news reports said Mr. NetanIsrael would turn over somewhat less territory than the Americans want, somewhat more than his cabinet has set as the limit, and with enough "contiguous areas" to mollify Palestinians seeking to cobble together an eventual state.

Such a compromise, which is not likely to be announced until both Mr. Ross and Mr. Clinton, who is in Africa, return to Washington, is a hallmark of Mr. Netanyahu's tenure. When necessary, he has been willing to make concessions and strike a compromise to avoid a crisis, even to the consternation

See ISRAEL, Page 4



Clocks go forward one hour in most European countries this weekend with the switch from winter time to summer time. Clocks should be put forward at 0100 GMT on Sunday. Daylight time begins next weekend in the United States and Canada.

Asian Crisis Tests Thai Firm's China Investment

By Joseph Kahn New York Times Service

HONG KONG — It was only a year ago that Dhanin Chearavanont, chairman of the Thai conglomerate Charoen Pokphand Enterprises PCL, was dispensing wisdom about how to succeed in China, where he had become, by many estimates, the largest and most influential foreign investor.

At the opening of Charoen Pok-phand's latest joint venture, an enormous warehouse-style department store in Shanghai, Mr. Dhanin entertained senior Chinese officials and shared his insights from two decades of investing there: Think long term. Be patient for profits. Transfer technology, not just capital.
Never dismiss Chinese employees.
Unfortunately for Mr. Dhanin's com-

pany, and perhaps for China, strategies like that may be a relic of the exuberant past in Asia, when double-digit economic growth, free-flowing bank financing and restrained shareholders covered a multitude of investment mistakes,

Today, as banks press Charoen Pokphand to repay about \$1 billion in foreign-currency debt, it has quietly put many of its prized China investments up for sale, laid off hundreds of Chinese staff members, and jettisoned some money-losing joint ventures.

The company is not withdrawing from
China. Its assets there remain huge—
130 affiliated companies valued at \$2 billion to \$4 billion, led by a network of

See CHINA, Page 4

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Morocco16 D
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U.S. Mil. (Eur.)\$1.2



City of School Killings Copes With Grief and Anger

By Rick Bragg New York Times Service

JONESBORO, Arkansas — This is a town that has learned to cherish a slow day.

Most days, Dennis Woody and the other paramedics

at Emerson Ambulance have a nice, long wait between calls, and sit talking in the soft, second-hand sofa, watching television, thinking how they could throw darts at the unmolested dartboard, if they wanted to.

On Tuesday, a day that forever altered the lives of

so many in this small city, Mr. Woody found himself on his knees in a blood-spattered school yard, trying in vain to make a young girl live again as her father stood over him and chanted, "Come on, come on,

Most days, T. J. Kelley of radio station KFIN flower shop for 34 years, and Grover Cooper, longcracks jokes, reports on soybean futures, and spins country music ballads for lovesick teenagers, helping to heal broken hearts that are never really broken all

'God did not leave Jonesboro,' mourners are told at rites for one of the young victims. Page 3.

Now, he tries to help young listeners who feel guilty for just being alive while their classmates and friends are dead from a hail of bullets, and pours words out onto the airwaves that remind this place how good and decent it was before this, and will be again.

Most days, Mitchell Faught, who has run the

time superintendent of schools, join other older men in the McDonald's to drink coffee, read newspapers, and joke about Mr. Cooper's impending retirement. On Thursday, as four of his students and a teacher lay in funeral homes and two young schoolmates sat

in jail, charged in the killing, the talk was kinder than "How you doing, Grover?" Mr. Faught asked. "I'm going to be fine," Mr. Cooper said.
Most people here say that. They will be fine, only

Jonesboro, which is expected to pass 50,000 in

population if the next census is kind, will always be

See SCHOOL, Page 3

The Jet Set Starts to Land in Patagonia

By Anthony Faiola Washington Post Service

VILLA TRAFUL, Argentina --Meme Lariviere, Ted Turner and Jane Fonda's next-door neighbor in Patagonia, a land so sparse and vast it would take her an hour by Jeep to borrow a cup of sugar from the glamour couple, stood near a lake and proudly pointed toward a windswept peak.

"That's my mountain," said the Argentine socialite on her ranch near the bottom of the Earth. She then swung her finger toward a neighboring Andes summit. "And over there, that one is

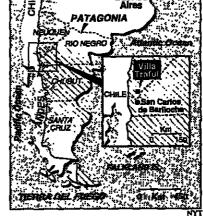
Ted and Jane's." The Lariviere family recently sold a chunk of property to the Turners for \$8 million, putting them on the fast-growing list of celebrities and multimillionaires who are suddenly transforming one of the globe's last unspoiled and most isolated outposts into "Patagonia, 90210."

Like Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, who escaped to this frosty wilderness the size of Texas at the turn of the century to evade the Pinkerton men, the rich and famous are also seeking refuge - from the paparazzi, the pollution and the daily rigors of life back home. President Bill Clinton and Hillary

the television anchor Tom Brokaw have all come recently for brief respites. Landowners in Patagonia now include the billionaire philanthropist George Soros, the Italian clothing magnate Luciano Benetton and numerous American corporate executives.

The actor Christophe Lambert has a contract on a "little piece of property, only worth about \$1 million," said his real estate agent, Federico Van Ditmar. The buying spree has caused a flurry of wild reports in the local media that

See PATAGONIA, Page 4



AGENDA

Europe's Defense Firms Miss a Deadline

their intention to merge into a more formidable competitor to U.S. rivals, but they failed to agree on a timetable or specifics of an eventual deal.

Responding to a virtual order from

Europe's three biggest aerospace-de-fense companies on Friday affirmed Aerospace AG and Construcciones Aeronauticas SA of Spain said they wanted to merge but had not found a mutually agreeable solution.

"Everyone is really still working on their own agenda, the one that suits their governments to agree on a plan by the end of March, British Aerospace their national interest," an analyst at ABN-AMRO said. Page 11.

Bundesbank Gives the Euro Its Blessing

After years of voicing doubts over Europe's planned single currency, Germany's Bundesbank said Friday that the project should be allowed to pro-

to endorse the full list of 11 countries ing nations. Page 11.

guration of the common currency "jus-tifiable," the Bundesbank also assailed The green light from the central bank allowed Bonn's political establishment which both rank among the 11 found-

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	The Dollar	
New York	Friday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.8258	1.8205
Pound	1.683	1.6858
Yen	130.32	128.455
FF	6.122	6.10
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	Friday close	pravious dose
-50.81	8796.08	8846.89
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change	Friday @ 4 P.M.	previous close
-4.93	1096.62	1101.58
Books		Page 8
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Sports	414,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Pages 20-21
The Intern	narket	Page 1
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Cuba Rebuffs Offer Of Direct U.S. Aid

VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Cuba's foreign minister, Roberto Robaina, said Friday that Havana would refuse all direct humanitarian aid from the United States as long as Washington maintained its embargo on Cuba, Italy's

ANSA news agency reported.

He spoke three days after Madeleine
Albright, the U.S. secretary of state,
visited Rome and described humanitarian measures Washington would take to help the Cubans.

EUROPE Serbs Increase Kosovo Forces THE AMERICAS

An Unusual Turn in Quebec Politics



PORSCHE CREATOR - Ferdinand (Ferry) Porsche, the German industrialist, is dead. Page 5.

By Lee Hockstader ashington Post Service

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Serbian forces in the volatile southern province of Kosovo have been beefed up in recent days despite repeated international demands that Belgrade withdraw its paramilitary police and defuse a standoff with secessionist rebels, U.S. officials

A high-ranking U.S. diplomat said that several hundred Serbian Interior Ministry police had been added to existing forces. The buildup has contributed to tensions in the central Kosovo region of Drenica, west of the provincial capital, Pristina, where more than 80 ethnic Albanians, including women and children, have died in the last month in a crackdown by Serbian forces.

The introduction of new Serbian forces in Kosovo, nearly three weeks

Germany Bars Easing of Rules On Immigration

By William Drozdiak

BERLIN — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government rejected a major revision of Germany's citizenship laws Friday, provoking criticism even within his conservative governing coalition over its failure to make it easier for the nation's 7 million foreigners to integrate

Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats voted down a proposal by the opposition Social Democrats to allow third-generation immigrants who are born here to hold two passports until the age of 16 and then be able to choose either German nationality or that of their parents.

The children of immigrants from Turkey, Yugoslavia, Italy and Greece who began arriving in the 1950s during the postwar economic boom have changed the face of Europe's largest nation in recent years, transforming Germany in-

to a multicultural society.

More foreigners live here than in any other European country, but Germany has resisted efforts to alter its strict citizenship law dating back to a 1913 imperial edict that bases nationality on bloodlines rather than birthplace.

Many second- and third-generation foreigners born and raised here have not been able to become citizens, leaving them bereft of rights to vote or hold government jobs and deepening their

Some younger members in the center-right ruling alliance urged the government to back reforms to defuse growing social tensions among Germany's foreign population. But Mr. Kohl has refused to consider any change in the citizenship law and demanded that all coalition members vote against the bill or accept responsibility for the government's collapse.

Guido Westerwelle, general secretary of the Free Democrats, the junior partner in Mr. Kohl's government, lamented the fact that his party was forced to vote against its convictions in the interest of keeping alive the ruling alliance before the September national

after the United States first demanded Serbian forces be withdrawn, underlines the limits of Washington's influence in what is widely seen as an explosive new conflict in the Balkans.

President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia, under whose thumb the Serbian police serve, refused again Friday to meet with Robert Gelbard, President Bill Clinton's special envoy to the Balkans.

Mr. Gelbard, who was in Belgrade and Pristina, met Thursday with other high-ranking Serbian leaders.

The snub by Mr. Milosevic came after a meeting of foreign ministers of the United States, Russia, France, Germany, Italy and Britain, in which Washington was unable to convince its allies to go along with tough new sanctions against Belgrade over Kosovo. Instead, the Balkans Contact Group on Wednesday gave Mr. Milosevic another month to start a dialogue with ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and pull out his paramilitary forces from the province.

In Pristina, Mr. Gelbard denounced

the "continued and deepening and ap-parently permanent presence of the spe-cial police." which he said "has created an environment that is not conducive at all to further progress" on Kosovo.

Another diplomatic source said the current Serbian buildup in Kosovo in-cluded the same special forces unit that were used in a major paramilitary police assault on ethnic Albanians in the village of Prekaz on March 6. Dozens of ethnic Albanians died in that incident, triggering international condemnation and the threat of sanctions.

About 90 percent of Kosovo's 2 million people are ethnic Albanians, but they are dominated politically and economically by the Serbs. Although the Serbian portion of Kosovo's population has been declining for decades, Serbs still consider the province to be the cradle of their civilization and insist it must remain part of Serbia.

Mr. Gelbard, reaffirming a key demand of the Contact Group, urged Al-banian and Serbian leaders on Thursday to move toward negotiations on Kosovo's status. The province enjoyed substantial autonomy until 1989, when

Mr. Milosevic revoked it unilaterally. Mr. Gelbard met with the ethnic Albanian leader, Ibrahim Rugova, and his new 15-member advisory council to press them on moving toward talks with Belgrade. So far, though, the politically fractious Albanians seem prepared only for talks among themselves about talks.

By Douglas Martin

NEW YORK — In a city that has had

enviable success in solving its serious

crimes, this was one of the more benign:

Several dozen South American guinea

tral Park, a strange land where they

The police said Thursday that they

had found the culprit, and, perhaps more importantly, parks workers had even rescued most of the guinea pigs.

The apparent motive for the crime?

Their owner was being evicted from his

apartment in public housing in the Chelsea area of Manhattan, and needed

would surely meet their death.

dag deen megany released in Ced-



Serbian students protesting on Friday in Pristana. Thousands took part in the demonstration in favor of continuing Serbian rule of Kosovo.

UN Arms Inspectors Spend a 2d Day At One of Saddam's Largest Palaces

N.Y. Saves Guinea Pigs From a Fate in Central Park

that have been recovered since last week monstrous," the commissioner said.

BAGHDAD — United Nations weapons inspectors and diplomatic observers carried out a second day of inspections of the Iraqi capital's Radwaniya presidential palace complex on Friday, officials said.

"We are doing a job of work and we will continue it today," said Jayantha Dhanapala, head of the Special Group of UN inspectors charged with examining presidential sites in Iraq. He refused to say whether the in-

spectors would be returning to the Radwaniya palace, which they entered Thursday in the first test of an agreement between the United Nations and Iraq that opened the presidential sites to inspection.

But Iraqi officials confirmed that

the inspectors had returned to the Radwaniya palace on Friday. A two-car convoy carrying Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz of Iraq followed the UN inspectors and dip-

lomats as they set out on Friday. Iraqi officials said that Mr. Aziz was "supervising" the inspection but

The suspect, Youri Cheng, could face two years in prison for each guinea pig that he released, the police said. That's 86 years, although such a stiff sentence

Meanwhile, the 33 surviving victims

er 10 are still missing, with dwindling

imals into a park rife with predators, from rats to hawks, shocked the city

over the weekend as people worried

about the animals' fate and mused about

the culprit's motive. The BBC, among

dozens of out-of-town news organiza-

Parks Commissioner Henry Stern

The release of the calico-colored an-

is considered unlikely.

hope for their rescue.

tions, covered the crime.

refused to confirm whether he had accompanied inspectors into the

Mr. Aziz signed the Feb. 23 agree-ment with the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, that opened up eight presidential sites for inspection.

Iraqi officials also said that Oil Minister Amer Mohammed Rashid had accompanied inspectors Thursday and again Friday.

The Radwaniya complex of President Saddam Hussein, 15 kilometers (10 miles) west of Baghdad, is one of the largest of the eight presidential The initial visits of the eight sites

are expected to take approximately two weeks, Mr. Dhanapala said Fri-He said that Thursday had been "a

hard, long day."
"We worked hard, we came back

very late at night," he said. Mr. Dhanapala refused to comment on how the inspection had gone, but he said he was sure that both sides intended to fulfill the Feb. 23 accord.

Jews and Catholics Plan Further Holocaust Probe

By Celestine Bohlen New York Times Service

ROME - In sessions that were described as intense, frank and at times profoundly religious, Jewish and Catholic leaders met this week in the wake of the Varican's much-criticized statement on the Holocaust. They agreed that, together, they would dig deeper into the historical record of the period, a move described by a leading American rabbi as "a significant step."

Several Jewish members of the In-

ternational Catholic-Jewish Liaison Committee, which has been meeting on and off for 30 years, said they had relayed their dissatisfaction with the Holocaust statement at a meeting Thursday with Pope John Paul II.

'I told him that the document could have been more emphatic insofar as the church admitting its institutional guilt," said Henry Sobel, a senior rabbi from Sao Paolo and a representative of the Latin American Jewish Congress, who added that he had gone on to list other criticisms of the text.

The Vatican document on the Holocaust, issued March 16, disappointed some leaders of Jewish organizations who had expected a more thorough and candid exploration of the church's conduct during the Nazi era. But most Jewish participants were also quick to temper their criticism with praise for Pope John Paul II, who has done much to improve relations.

The document itself, in the works for 11 years, called for an "act of repentance" on behalf of Catholics who during the Holocaust failed to live up to the moral demands of their faith. But it also went on to praise Pope Pius XII, the wartime Pope whose long silences about Nazi atroctities has become a central issue in continuing debates about the church's conduct during the period.

Several Catholic historians have argued that Pius XII, whose 1937 con-

demnation of Nazism led to anti-Catholic persecutions, later avoided public denunciations and tried instead to use quiet diplomacy to save Jewish lives.

But the debate has been fueled by the Vatican's refusal to open its wartime archives to independent scholars. Under the Vatican's rules, they must remain sealed for 20 more years. The church insists that all relevant materials on its wartime conduct have already been published in 11 volumes of documents released from 1965 to 1981 under the

direction of Vatican-approved scholars But at the meetings this week, several of the Jewish participants insisted, as they have before, that the documents that have been released are not complete.

Participants said that Gerhard Riegner, honorary vice president of the World nuncio in Switzerland about the unstable when she were folding atrocities against Jews if folding atrocities against Jews it sundant her were the Europe was not among the released doc-

"We have repeatedly asked for access to the wartime archives so that the full truth of the period can be known," said Tommy Baer, international president of B'nai B'rith and a member of the liaison committee. "The unpublished documents might well disclose positive aspects of church conduct."

The Jewish side was unanimous in welcoming a proposal by Edward Cardinal Cassidy, chairman of the Vatican's committee on relations with the Jews, for a joint investigation of the published materials, which will examine what documents are missing.

BRIEFLY

4 in Crew Charged In Ski-Lift Deaths

WASHINGTON — The four-man crew of a U.S. Marine jet that severed a cable-car wire in the Italian Alps has been charged with involuntary manslaughter, negligent homicide, dereliction of duty and damage to military and private property, the Marine Corps said Friday.

The charges follow an investi-gation that blamed the crew for causing the Feb. 3 disaster, which sent 20 Europeans in the ski lift to their deaths. Investigators con-cluded that the plane — an EA-6B Prowler surveillance jet — was flying too low and too fast, not only at the time it sliced the wire but also repeatedly during the training flight.
The aircraft and crew are part of a

squadron, normally based in North Carolina, that was on temporary assignment in Aviano, Italy, as part of the Bosnian peacekeeping mission. NATO's military commander earlier rejected Italy's request that the four officers be handed over to Italy for prosecution.

By moving quickly to press charges against the crew, senior officials have tried to quell the public and political outrage that the accident triggered in Italy. (WP)

French Centrist Out

ORLEANS, France - A second French centrist renegade who set off political dispute by making an election deal with the far right National Front resigned Friday amid continuing controversy across

Bernard Harang of the Union for French Democracy announced he was resigning as president of the Center regional assembly, a post he secured a week ago with the help of National Front votes.

which have a reddy bear and so to theme from Titanie. My Heart Will Co The A link and white bounded store

Men and mounters. "G

Keveren

A print and nearby was a arch of the dark-harred youngettes all basic bell uniform, holding a be disting next to some trepare In Thursday night, friends and the to hugard one another and stied it of waited to walk by Paige's appl Le durage visitation. Photos of Natalise Browns at Care

mares to the right of her closed cutton sparie visitation. One showed a and dressed in a white belong awhile she were a pink formal dream even photograph. She was 11. How and was to be held later Friday, somes are scheduled Sanuday. three other victims. Shannen Stephanic Johnson and Brands, both 12.

(HOOL: meshoro Copes

Continued from Page 1

sm at least partiy, as the Arkania where two boys, is and II and ed in comoutage as if they were enclas-mates and an English teachstrain of hullets that also whunded:

viore that, it was just a place to live sork and raise children, where the ating that had ever happened was a bus accident that killed eight the a tragedy, but something they il understand

assoro is a place where only one names Playboy magazine, and you to ask for a "under the counter. aure no blinking beer signs or hotel shours because there is no boose Ecounty is dry as old houses - and im God is a given.

帅 of the two boys chargest in the. as were given Bibles as they was Edaway One of them asked 3 t Haas if he had "any " aghts that might help him themes ordeal.

when you hear people say, "Risk" and to happen here," what they see any is. This is not the sumorable abreeds this sort of violence, "said a Deresbach, assistant minister & ac at Central Baptist Church

That is with people in this mostly ine largely blue-collar college towns. I amon ween they hear psychianters. it on during television about figur

RUSSIA: Kiriyenkor

TRAVEL UPDATE

Ducal Palace of Urbino Reopens After Quake

ROME (Reuters) — Urbino's famed ducal palace reopened Friday after inspectors said cracks that appeared in its walls after a big earthquake in central Italy were "nothing to worry about."

The epicenter of the quake Thursday was in the Umbrian village of Gualdo Tadino, about 40 kilometers (25 miles) from Assisi. No injuries were reported in the quake but there was considerable concern for the Renaissance treasures of the walled town of Urbino, just 50 kilometers from the epicenter, where plasterwork fell from buildings.

Urbino's 15th century ducal palace was built by Duke Federico da Montefeltro and was the setting for Baldassare Castiglione's 16th century handbook of courtly behavior, "The Courtier." The city is also the birthplace of Raphael.

On Drunk Driving

BONN (AP) - Parliament lowered Germany's drunken driving limit Friday, threatening offenders who breach the new threshold with a fine of 200 Deutsche marks (\$110). Under the new law, to take effect next month, anyone caught driving with a blood-alcohol level of 0.05 percent will be considered legally drunk. The old limit, 0.08 percent, remains the trigger for suspending

Athens Moves to Restore Power

The Associated Press

to get rid of them. And fast.

ATHENS — Almost a quarter of the 5 million residents in Athens remained without electricity Friday, as crews struggled to clear fallen trees and fight back floodwaters following a violent storm that battered the country. In the mountainous regions outside

Athens, many villages remained cut off by deep snow that fell during the two-Torrential rain and near burricaneforce winds, which began Wednesday, reached speeds of 117 kilometers an

hour (73 mph), felling trees that snapped power lines and water pipes. Ports throughout Greece were closed

Thursday. One man died on the island of Rhodes when he was swept out to sea by

Rescuers worked through the night Thursday to free 28 people stranded by

snow that reached more than 2.5 meters (eight feet) near a ski resort on the mountain of Parnassos. At least 120 villages around the country were re-

portedly snowed in.
About 200 families in northwestern Athens were left homeless by flooding. Crews were pumping water out of thousands of homes around the city.

Despite an improvement in the weather Friday in most parts of Greece. many main highways were still blocked by snow, floodwater and mud slides. The southern city of Tripoli was al-

most completely cut off, while few roads in the northern regions of Mace-donia and Thrace were open, according to news reports.

Many schools remained closed Friday because they lacked electricity and heat. The authorities have appealed to the public to limit electricity consumption.

Germans Lower Limit Light Returns to Auckland - but Flickers

Compiled by Our Staff From Disporters

AUCKLAND, New Zealand - After five weeks without power. New Zealand's largest city saw the light again Friday when a new emergency cable was flicked on. But hours later, the cable failed, trapping people in elevators and

snarling traffic.

The foul-up was remedied later in the day, but not before causing confusion and embarrassment.

director of the city utility, Mercury En-

Middle East

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Only hours after Mercury Energy said there would be no more power cuts, the wave of outages hit about a quarter of the commercial inner-city zone. Starting Jan. 22, all four cables feed-

ng electricity into the commercial zone failed. Mercury has said unusually hot weather during January and February was the most likely cause of the cable "Our timing couldn't be much failures, but full technical investigations worse," said Patrick Strange, planning have yet to be completed. (AP, Reuters) failures, but full technical investigations

Authority, Hilly Gross, said keeping the guinea pigs in public housing was also a violation. The authority's rules allow tenants to own one pet, if it is properly registered.

from his apartment and appeared to act in the belief that he was helping his pets

by freeing them in the park.

Investigators from the Parks Department and the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said the suspect was found with the help of an informant, who had apparently helped Mr. Cheng take the cage full of

to Central Park alone, and released the guinea pigs near Central Park's Conservatory Garden, the investigators But he was observed releasing the

"It appears the action of this individual was more pathetic than it was animals by park personnel, who rescued few days, 15 more animals were recovered; Mr. Cheng told the investigators that there were 43 altogether. The outlook for the animals still at

large is dim, Mr. Stem said. We're afraid that because of the snowstorm last weekend, there isn't a

lot of hope," he said. The captured animals have been tested for diseases and have been declared safe for adoption.

WEATHER

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said Mr. Cheng, 27, was being evicted animals to a taxi. Mr. Cheng then went

Europe North America

Windy and cool with showers in the Southwest Sunday to Tuesday. Windy with thunderstorms from day, but e storm causing Texas to the central Ptains, rain over western France and southern England will on the country will be dry and southern England will on the country will be dry and southern England will of southeastern China with sore across most of France and unseasonably warm with sunshine Dry and pleasant in the Northwest.

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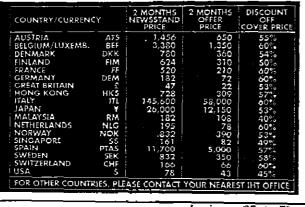
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Continued from Page 1 23/73 1964 pc 24/76 17/62 4 that the threats will be

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Mourning a Murdered Schoolgirl

'God Did Not Leave Jonesboro,' Pastor Says at First of 5 Funerals

The Associated Press

JONESBORO, Arkansas - Those who loved Paige Ann Herring and those who knew her only in death gathered Friday to mourn and to remember. A

minister sold them they must be a "beacon of hope" to the world.
About 500 people packed the chapel at the Farmers Union Funeral Home for the first of five funerals from the Westside Middle School shootings. Paige Ann was less than two weeks past her 12th birthday when she, three schoolmates and a teacher were shot and killed in the ambush Tuesday.
"God did not leave Jonesboro on

Tuesday," the Reverend Gary Cremeens told mourners. "God wants us to be beacon of hope, light and love to a world that needs it so badly." "The healing cannot begin until we

Backedia asked for in archives so that archives archives so that archives so that archives archives so that archives the archives archives to a church conduct archives are unannated archives archives are unannated archives archives are unannated archive forgive," he said. One little girl in the second row clutched, a brown teddy bear and sobbed as the theme from "Titanic," Celine Dion's hit "My Heart Will Go On,"

A pink and white bouquet stood on Paige's casket, and nearby was a photograph of the dark-haired youngster in a red basketball uniform, holding a ball

and sitting next to some trophies. On Thursday night, friends and classmates hugged one another and cried as they waited to walk by Paige's open casket during visitation.

Photos of Natalie Brooks at different ages were to the right of her closed casket at a separate visitation. One showed a toddler dressed in a white bunny costume, while she wore a pink formal dress in a recent photograph. She was 11. Her funeral was to be held later Friday.

Services are scheduled Saturday for the three other victims, Shannon Wright, 32, who taught at the school, and Stephanie Johnson and Brittany Varner, both 12.

SCHOOL: Jonesboro Copes

Continued from Page 1

known, at least partly, as the Arkansas city where two boys, 13 and 11 and dressed in camouflage as if they were going deer hunting, shot and killed four of their classmates and an English teacher in a rain of bullets that also wounded 10 other children.

Before that, it was just a place to live and work and raise children, where the worst thing that had ever happened was a 1983 bus accident that killed eight people: a tragedy, but something they could understand.

Jonesboro is a place where only one store carries Playboy magazine, and you have to ask for it "under the counter." There are no blinking beer signs or hotel happy hours because there is no booze the county is dry as old bones - and

faith in God is a given. Both of the two boys charged in the killing were given Bibles as they were locked away. One of them asked Sheriff thoughts" that might help him through

saying is, "This is not the atmosphere that breeds this sort of violence," said John Deresbach, assistant minister of music at Central Baptist Church.

That is why people in this mostly white, largely blue-collar college town get angry when they hear psychiatrists talk on daytime television about how the change in people.

"People are gentler," he said. They will help each other, feeding the needy with food baskets prepared at churches

Continued from Page 1

Kiriyenko helped fuel some politicians' fears that Mr. Yeltsin might really be

who leads Yabloko, the largest demo-

ifications as prime minister, Mr. Yeltsin

did not allude to the possibility he might

one day have to take over as president.

"Some say he is too young and too inexperienced," Mr. Yeltsin said in a

radio address to the nation Friday morn-

ing. "I categorically disagree. Professionalism and energy are not defined by one's date of birth." He said that Mr.

Kiriyenko would have no time to "warm up," and that "social questions which

have not been solved must be tackled immediately." He also said Mr. Kir-

iyenko would need a lot of help. "He can also expect my help, of course."

When listing Mr. Kiriyenko's qual-

"Any other prime minister would

considering a third run.

cratic faction in the Duma.

RUSSIA: Kiriyenko Gets Nod From Yeltsin

have been competition for him," said
Grigori Yavlinsky, the liberal economist

The government bureaucracy in Moscow is so bloated that most Russians

■ Suspect 'Wants to Go Home'

Sam Howe Verhovek of The New York Times reported earlier from Jonesboro: The older boy calmly asked for a Bible and a minister, the local sheriff said, while the younger one cried and pleaded that he "wants his mama, and he wants to go home now." Both asked if they could trade their lunch of com bread, white beans and baked chicken for a pizza. They were told no.

And as 13-year-old Mitchell Johnson and 11-year-old Andrew Golden sit in a juvenile desention center, charged with the shootings that left four of their schoolmates and one teacher dead, Mitchell's father, Scott Johnson, said the boy was full of shame and contrition but had offered no explanation of what had led him to kill.

Mr. Johnson, 36, a cross-country trucker, said he was driving through Fort Worth when he heard of the shootings on his radio Tuesday. He called Jonesboro to see whether Mitchell was safe, and learned he was in custody. He dropped his trailer and drove here in the cab.

The father, who is divorced from Mitchell's mother and lives in Minnesota, described a brief meeting with his son on Wednesday:

"He broke down in my arms and he wept, and he just said over and over he was sorry and he wished he could take it back. He was very, very remorseful."
The two are accused of luring stu-

dents out of Westside Middle School with a false fire alarm, then killing the four and their teacher in a hail of bullets fired from a small arsenal of rifles and pistols -- all because Johnson had been

jilted by a girl, classmates said.

The police found weapons and hundreds of rounds of ammunition in a van the boys apparently intended to use as a get-away car. Ten people were wounded in the shooting spree that left the

school pockmarked with bullet holes.

Amid the grief that pervades Jonesboro, palpable in conversations and visible in the ubiquitous white ribbons and road signs expressing condolences and words of prayer, there is also anger over the apparently limited prospects for pun-ishing the two boys. Under the state's juvenile-sentencing laws, both may well be released by their 18th birthdays, even

if they are convicted on every charge stemming from the five killings. In Washington, Attorney General Janet Reno said she was exploring whether it was possible to charge them under federal laws and, if so, whether the older boy might be tried as an adult. That could result in harsher penalties, but legal ex-perts said the grounds for trying Mitchell as an adult were extremely limited.

In any event, such maneuvers, which many people in Jonesboro are demand-ing, would still be unlikely to keep either boy in custody beyond the age of 21.

The Craighead County sheriff, Dale Haas, described the boys' demeanor and said it was not particularly unusual for that of juveniles facing charges, even those known for toughness or bullying.

■ Clinton Offers His Prayers

President Bill Clinton said in South Africa on Friday that he had been praying for those shot and wounded in the fatal attack at the school in Arkansas, Reuters reported from Cape Town.
"The thoughts and prayers of people

not only in our country but indeed throughout the world are with them,'

Mr. Clinton said.
"There is nothing more tragic than a child robbed of the opportunity to grow up," he said at a news conference with President Nelson Mandela. Mr. Clinton said he had called the governor of Arkansas, the mayor of Jonesboro and the school principal to express his con-



A commemorative bow near the school where the five killings took place.

Southerners are just naturally more and binding up their wounds with thou-prone to violence, or that a proliferation sands of white ribbons, some on mail-Westside Middle School.

What happened at the school, these for the community. Dale Haas if he had 'any Bible people say, was born in the disturbed At Emerson Ambulance, the lobby minds of one of the two boys, perhaps was crowded with men who had worked "When you hear people say, 'It isn't in time. It had nothing to do with them, supposed to happen here, what they're people in Jonesboro say of themselves.

They, at least in a symbolic sense, only have to dig the graves, and live with the memory of what happened.

signed the long-delayed and bitterly dis-

puted 1998 budget, which had been bogged down in Parliament for months,

and announced that he and his new prime

minister would halve the number of

contradict an assertion made by the act-

ing deputy minister of finance, Aleksei

Kndrin, who told the Financial Times

teachers and medical workers, as part of

if he is approved by Parliament.

In the Duma on Friday, deputies, especially Communist hard-liners, re-

Mr. Kiriyenko would bear the brunt of

a radical austerity program.

staffers in the cabinet and Kremlin.

Mr. Deresbach has noticed one

of guns — deer hunting is a rite of boxes, others on car antennas, all honpassage here - led to the slaughter at oring the dead. Marquee signs that once advertised fried catfish promised prayer

to save the students v down. They talked angrily about news accounts blaming breakdowns in society - their society - for what happened. If that were true, these men wondered, why had they not seen this horror before?

Most days at the ambulance service. said Rickey Elder, a 42-year-old para-medic, are "pretty much like recess."

"We sit, we eat, we get fat," said Charlie Ferguson, 32, a paramedic, when asked to describe a usual day. Some days, they may only answer two or three emergency calls. In 1997, there were two killings. In 1996, two again.
"This is a college town," Mr. Ferguson said, "and the wildest things that

happen here are the parties. And, it's a dry county," so those parties are not often drunken brawls resulting in

The 911 call changed all that.

They all scrambled to it, men like Mr. Woody, Mr. Ferguson, and Toby Emer-son, who is also the coroner. Mr. Woody, would not notice or mourn such cuts. But Mr. Yeltsin was also forced Friday to the first to arrive, described how he knelt over the dead child, at the feet of her frantic father, and could do nothing. He knew she was dead, but could not tell that the government plans to fire him. 200,000 state employees, including B But that was not the worst of it.

"The thing I'm gonna walk away with is the memory of looking up and seeing another girl," in the arms of another rescuer, and how "her head fell back, and the blood coming out." pushing many such unpopular measures

None of them questioned whether or not, if guns had been absent from the sponded sourly to the appointment. But culture, none of that could have happened.

the Communist speaker of Parliament, 'You lay a gun on a table and a Gennadi Seleznyov, suggested that Mr. Kiriyenko could squeak through in the hundred years from now the gun will still Friday was a busy day for the 67-year-old Mr. Yeltsin, who has been frequently absent from the Kremlin this spring be-cause of colds and a viral infection. He be sitting there, unless someone touches it," reasoned Mr. Elder. Like the others. he wore a white ribbon across his

BANKS: Swiss Demand an End to U.S. Threats of Sanctions

Continued from Page I

expects that the threats will be com-

pietely lifted." Accord on 'Structure'

The agreement was called "a breakthrough Thursday by Undersecretary of State Stuart Eizenstar when he announced that the banks had "clearly committed to engage in a process with monitor the negotiations in hopes that "a the hope of a settlement," John Goshko rough structure for a settlement" will of The Washington Post reported from New York.

The New York City comptroller, Alan Hevesi, who organized the campaign to put pressure on the banks by threatening sanctions, said the parties would begin negotiations on April 24. Mr. Hevesi negotiations on April 24. Mr. Hevesi an agreement on the structure of a added that the aim would be an agree-settlement, not the settlement itself." ment on "moral and material compen-

by Holocaust victims and heirs to recover assets held by the banks.

"The hope is that the result will be agreement on a dollar figure for restitution and a statement of moral responsibility demonstrating that the Swiss people recognize that terrible things happened," Mr. Hevesi said. He added that the American state and local officials involved in his campaign would become evident in 60 to 90 days.

Sources familiar with the maneuvering that led to the announcement stressed that no monetary figure has been agreed on and that considerable bargaining remained. As Mr. Hevesi said, "This is

In a letter delivered to the officials just sation" for the help given by Swiss before they began deliberating whether banks to Germany during World War II and their subsequent hindrance of efforts and their subsequent hindrance of efforts

land and Swiss Bank Corp.—confirmed that they would deal directly with the World Jewish Congress, which the Israeli government has designated as its negotiator, and lawyers for some 18,000 plaintiffs in a class-action suit in federal court in Brooklyn that seeks \$20 billion from the banks.

The chief executive officer of Credit Suisse, Lukas Muehlman, who signed the letter for all three banks, said they welcomed the inclusion in negotiations of the World Jewish Congress and lawyers for individuals seeking compensation.

Sources familiar with the situation said that the banks' action was a victory for Mr. Hevesi's advocacy of a tough

His drive, which he began organizing last fall, was opposed by Mr. Eizenstat and other Clinton administration officials, who argued that threatening sanctions or boycotts could antagonize the Swiss and make a settlement more difficult.



Jean Charest waving to supporters after he announced his leadership bid.

Quebec Unity Candidate Gets a Mixed Reception

QUEBEC CITY - French-speaking Quebec woke up to a changed political landscape Friday after the Conservative leader Jean Charest confirmed he would lead pro-unity forces in the province.

The story was splashed across the front pages of newspapers in the province, with most editorial writers welcoming Mr. Charest's announceof the Quebec Liberal Party and take on the secessionist premier, Lucien Bouchard in the next election.

"Charest makes the jump," the French-language Montreal daily La Presse declared.

But some say that the message from Mr. Charest, who carries the hopes of those who want to maintain a unified Canada, is muddled.

'For someone who said he has been thinking since March 2, his performance last night was disappointing," the Quebec daily Le Soleil said.

Le Devoir of Montreal said, "Charest is still a hazy picture, as his candidacy speech showed, even if his old and new allies are overwhelmingly confident."

Charest's entry to Quebec politics is rowly lost the last one, in 1995.

Mario Dumont, the head of the Action Democratique, a rightist splinter party with a nationalist edge. On Friday, Mr. Dumont, 27, said he

had no intention of returning to a Charest-led, Liberal Party in Quebec. "There is some kind of hope that Jean

Charest will beat the Parti Quebecois and that Quebec will go back into its hole and we won't bear about it anymore," he ment that he would run for the leadership said in Montreal. "The Quebec problem is much deeper than the simplistic idea

of beating Lucien Bouchard.

Outside Quebec, Canadian federalists are hoping that the Liberals under Mr. Charest will defeat Mr. Bouchard, thereby postponing indefinitely a referendum on sovereignty for Quebec.

Mr. Bouchard has vowed to hold one if his party wins the election, which must be called before the fall of 1999. But Mr. Charest asserted Thursday night that Mr. Bouchard was "preparing a new turn-around" and would back away from the

There is a sharp division in the Parti Quebecois over the wisdom of Mr. Bouchard's pledge. Recent polls have shown most Quebeckers do not want One who stands to lose most with Mr. another referendum. The separatists nar-

POLITICAL NOTES

Republicans Delay Finance Bill Vote

WASHINGTON - House Republican leaders have decided to put off a vote on campaign finance legislation after days of behind-thescenes maneuvering left them short of the support they needed to kill a bipartisan plan to rewrite the nation's election rules.

The Republican disarray signaled that at least for now a majority exists in the House to pass an overhaul bill that would ban political parties from accepting large unregulated donations known as soft money. The legislation is opposed by Republican leaders, whose party generally has a fund-raising advantage.

Last month the Senate also

mustered a slim majority for the legislation, but it died when proponents could not gain the 60 votes needed to overcome a filibuster.

Conservatives Attack Labor's War Chest

LOS ANGELES - Upset by organized labor's growing political clout, conservatives in California and 20 other states are pushing ballot initiatives or state legislation that could greatly reduce labor's political war chest.

In California, conservatives are campaigning for a measure on the June 2 ballot that could, by supporters' estimates, cut labor's campaign spending by 80 percent in that state. It would require unions to obtain a member's approval each year before spending that member's dues on political activities.

Labor leaders call the referendum a crude weapon designed to cripple labor politically and to punish unions for campaigning so hard against Republicans in the 1996 congressional elections. (NYT)

Quote/Unquote

Christopher Representative Shays, Republican of Connecticut. a member of the House Budget Committee, on the \$217 billion highway and mass transit bill, which includes nearly \$30 billion of new spending beyond what is permitted under the balanced-budget deal of last summer. "This is the best indication that the Republican revolution is over. It's really obscene that we would get so close to putting our country's finances in order and then blow it with a \$30 billion outrage. This is politics at its worst." (\overline{WP})

Away From Politics

• Yucca Mountain, the Nevada site slated to become a U.S. nuclear waste dump, may be much less geologically stable than believed, researchers reported in the journal Science. They said this might raise the probability of earthquakes or volcanic activity during the 10,000-plus years in which radioactive waste must be held.

 The first pill to treat impotence, Pfizer Inc.'s Viagra. has been approved by the government, becoming the first nonsurgical impotence treatment that does not have to be injected or inserted directly into the penis.

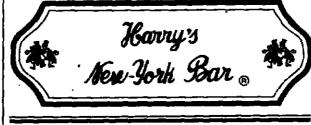
• A seven-month inquiry by the Memphis district attorney has found no evidence that anyone other than James Earl Ray killed Martin Luther King Jr.

DEATH NOTICE

Madame Duncan MacElhone, son Franz-Arthur MacElhone and the staff of Harry's New York Bar sadly announce the passing of Mr. Duncan MacElhone last Wednesday, March 25, 1998 at age 43 in Paris of complications after surgery.

Beloved husband, father and treasured friend, Mr. MacElhone gradu-

Beloved husband, father and treasured friend, Mr. MacElhone graduated from Montcel College and Georgetown University and began a career in international banking before becoming the third-generation family member to operate Harry's Bar in 1984. Mr. MacElhone dedicated his energies on expanding the reputation of Paris's oldest cocktail bar and extending Harry's international operations. He was chiefly responsible for branch openings in Montreux, Berlin and Hanover as well as organizing the firm's license operations. Chairman of the International Bar Flies, he was also member of the American Chub of Paris. Chairman of the International American Chub of Paris, American Chub of Paris, Services will be held Tuesday, March 31, 1998 at the American Cathedral, 23, av. George-V, 75008 Paris at 9 a.m.



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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Proud Cape Town Bridles at the Hoopla of a U.S. Invasion

By Lynne Duke

CAPE TOWN - Attitude: This city ergy," as if Cape Town were a phe-wrath extended to any American in a nomenon, not just a place.

Maybe it is the winds that whip down

Table Mayard in the winds that whip down off Table Mountain that lend atmospher- unit, the CIA, FBI, the army, ics to the city's identity, or the Noon Gun the navy and, in fact, the that roars out a cannon blast each day troops ... over the Signal Hill Malay quarter and Cape Town Harbor beyond.

guard the vibe jealously, with attitude tourism capital. It is a place of intense doubled in the face of any intrusion. national pride; but that pride is fragile Thus the crescendo of grousing over the inconveniences of President Bill Clin-likes of Mr. Clinton and his three-plane-

As with previous appearances by Hilbeen written about street closures, traffic South Africa.

jams, disrupted work schedules. The horror! So Mayor Teresa Solomon spoke for many Capetonians this week when she publicly declared she would is full of it. Capetonians talk of "the not allow the Americans to push her vibe" of the place, its "flow," its "en- around "like a sack of potatoes." Her

Cape Town is known as the "Mother City," the seat of Whatever its source, Capetonians Parliament and the nation's

load entourage comes to town. Leon van der Merwe, owner of a lary Rodham Clinton and by Vice Prespopular political haunt, the Moroka Café ident Al Gore, newspaper editorials have Africaine, said the visit is "a big first for

But his patrons have been complainbusinessman, it is because they are genpolitics, ethnicity, and acceptance of
ing about "all this security, all this weldcrally grumpy in the face of new American visitors, one thing they have ing of manholes." One said: "It's not necessary. We're not going to do any-apartheid political intighting prevails thing to him."

Evidence of this defensive attitude came in the response to Ms. Solomon's

If some are grompy about the visit, it is because they are generally grumpy in the face of new freedoms and new stresses

> reported remarks: The Cape Times ever on the verge of boiling over. The fielded a barrage of phone calls in support of her tough line. The Foreign Affairs Department reportedly assured Ms. Solomon that, for Mr. Clinton's visit. she would have her own security that would, as she put it, "shove back."

about Mr. Clinton's visit, said Nazcem, a

and when crime, unemployment and

gang warfare are flaring.
"When he leaves Cape Town and South Africa, we're still going to have crime as our biggest problem, unemployment as

Much of it stems from the

melting pot here that seems' plethora of ethnic groups in Cape Town does not live in harmony. There are mixed-race (known as coloreds), Afrikaners and other whites, black Africans of many kinds, Indians and Malays. Among them are ancestor-worshipers and Anglic-

If some South Africans are grumpy ans, Dutch Reformers and Muslims.

American visitors, one thing they have

the rage.)

But loving American culture is one troubled operations at home. thing. Loving American people is quite rican life but are flocking in to take advantage of the country's bounty. The American style of take-charge can-doism is seen as problematic.

Twala, music manager of P4Cape Town Radio. "You guys have come in to be like Big Brother, in a very aggressive way, as well as condescending."

"No one really has the loyalty to China that they talked about a year or two ago." said Joe Zhang, a China specialist at Credit Lyonnais. "China is nothing special. If you don't make money, you get out."

It was not an analysis to China that they talked about a year or two ago." said Joe Zhang, a China specialist at Credit Lyonnais. "China is nothing special. If you don't make money, you get out."

Thai Firm Cuts Back

Continued from Page 1

in common, ironically, is an embrace of feed grain plants in almost every Chinese American culture.

The province But the crisis in Asia has done province. But the crisis in Asia has done American culture.

American music pulses across the airwayes. American in Leevision shows fill as highly improbable only months ago: it as highly improbable only months ago: it the picture tube: ("Wrestlemania" is all has forced an overseas Chinese business empire to sell key China assets to support

There are indications that Charcen our biggest problem, and this insecurity," Nazeem said. "We are an insecure nation."

Loving American people is quite from the seen as know-it-polyment as another. They are often seen as know-it-polyment as another ano alls, as folks who don't really grasp the reassessment of China among Asian nuances and complexities of South Afconglomerates. The flood of investment capital has slowed; China's central bank predicts that foreign investment will fall for the first time in almost a decade this year, to as low as \$30 billion from \$45 billion in 1997.

ident, said the financial crisis had dried up its credit lines and forced it to limit its diversified holdings to a few missions. In China, it is searching for buyers of

its stakes in noncore factories, including

those making drugs, beer, petrochemicals and motorcycles, he said.

"Some of our investments have not been as successful as we hoped," Mr. Sarasin said, "and we are thinking of ways to dispose of them. If companies there are a burden to us, it is not logical

or rational to hang on. Proceeds from the sales will be used to reduce Charoen Pokphand's debt in Thailand-based telecommunications and information-technology projects, Mr. Sarasin said. The money will also support agro-industry investments -

the company is known as Asia's chicken king in Thailand, China and Indonesia.

'Our China projects, for the most part, are valued in U.S. dollars,' he said.

We need those dollars elsewhere." The frank disclosure is a major change for Charoen Pokphand. Since the late 1970s, when China cracked open its door to foreign businesses, Charoen Pokphand began borrowing at home to build a China network. For it and many other Asian conglomerates run by overseas Chinese,

mainland China was the Holy Grail. Such thinking has helped ignite China's economy. Overseas Chinese, eign investment. They laid the foundations for vibrant export industries and channeled tens of billions of dollars into

urban real estate projects. For years, Charoen Pokphand took a Mr. Dhanin, 59, patriasch of the family

educated, and he cultivated political connections that other investors envied. Mr. Dhanin regularly visited Deng Xiaoping, the late leader of China, and has relations with President Jiang Zemin and with the

The company used those ties to establish itself as a kind of middle man between China and the West, matching motorcycle plant, Charoen Pokphand es-Co. of the United States in building modern feed-grain mills. Other partners included Ford Motor Co., Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Heineken NV.

By the mid-1990s, Charoen Pokphand controlled about a fifth of China's chicken market and a tenth of its huge feedgrain business.

Almost one in 10 Chinese motorcycles carried the Thai company's Xingfu brand name. It remade itself as a Chinese company: The mainland accounted for more than half of its worldwide revenue, com pared with one-fourth from Thailand.

But competition, from both locals and multinationals, grew intense. The mo-torcycle market is now gintted, with most producers, including the New York-lis-ted Ek Chor Motorcycle Co., facing stag-nant or declining sales. Charoen Pok-phand poured \$300 million into the Shanghai real estate market just before prices fell, company executives said.

Charoen Pokphand's middle-man strategy has grown outdated as China matures and Western multinationals surge in on their own terms. Wal-Mart and Charoen Pokphand went separate ways in 1995. The Thai company expected to play a prominent role in China's first semiconductor wafer plant, the \$1.2 billion Shanghai-based Huahong Microelectronics Co. But Beijing eventually

selected a Japanese partner, NEC Corp.
Despite those setbacks, Charoen Pokphand might well have ridden out the storm and continued its China expansion - it has pledged about \$1 billion for projects yet completed. But the Asian financial crises forced reassessment.

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A President's Troupers

Motley Crew Accompanies Clinton to Africa

By R.W. Apple Jr.

CAPE TOWN - President Bill Clin-

ers, teleptione operators, pilots, diplo-mats, coordinators, facilitators, assist-ants to the president, deputy assistants to the president, special assistants to the president, reporters and technicians (58 from the fledgling Fox news operation alone), spin doctors (10, if you count the invest in the new Africa. assistants and their assistants), members of Congress (16: 14 Democrats and 2 Republicans), cabinet members (3), business executives, labor leaders, mayors, church leaders, Clinton pals and the Reverend Jesse Jackson, who is working very hard to learn how to play second

A lot of them — two of the three cabinet members and 12 of the 16 members of Congress, for example — are black, and Mr. Clinton has emphasized that without embarrassment. He made

Senator Seeks U.S. Veto Over **Genocide Court**

By Barbara Crossette New York Times Service

UNITED NATIONS, New York — A genocide in Rwanda, endorsed a pernt international criminal court to Washington wielded veto power over it.

In a letter to Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Mr. Helms, Repub-Madeleine Albright, Mr. Heims, Republican of North Carolina and chairman of tributed \$125,000 and lent his Beverly the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that he was "unalterably opposed to the creation of a permanent UN criminal court" and other developments that would give the United Nations "a

trapping of sovereignty."
"The UN is not now — nor will it ever be so long as I have breath in me — a sovereign entity," he wrote. He was the administration was showing flexibility in negotiations over the court.

The senator's threats come as a team of American legal experts, led by David Scheffer, the State Department's representative for war crimes issues, is in critical talks at the United Nations with more than 100 other nations over how the court will operate.

double the opportunities governments would have to block court action by challenging an international prosecutor's right to pursue a case that could be handled nationally.

The court would tackie genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, which are now covered only by such ad hoc tribunals as those set up for the Balkans and Rwanda.

Mr. Heims also delivered a blow Thursday to the administration's efforts to repair relations between the United Nations and Congress, so that \$1.3 billion in outstanding American dues can emergency spending bill for the International Monetary Fund.

the United States for its contributions, ranches, or estancias. lower the percentage of contributions to publicly report to all member nations how much the United States has spent invasion has caused an outcry here - mostly from supporting Security Council resolutions Patagonian politicians and naturalists who say that

not receiving enough of the American rivalries have always been high. taxpayers' money, the real truth is that amendment on Wednesday. He was apthe Pentagon in international missions days are ahead." that it chose to support.

apologetic remarks about slavery in Uganda on Tuesday, but in the next breath he remarked upon how much the descendants of slaves had contributed to ton is the undisputed star of the U.S. the United States and noted the many troupe touring Africa, but there are supblack faces in his entourage.

porting acts, too.

In the company of 800 people, who fill two planes that follow Air Force

The president thus plays simultaneously to two constituencies, the mostly Democratic black voters at home One, are the usual gaggle of advance and the black leaders with whom he is people, security specialists, stenographpolitical technique, practiced in the past by U.S. presidents barnstorming in Po-land, Italy or Ireland.

The Americans whose attention the president most wants to grab are business executives, in the hope they will

'We have the leader of the free world here for 12 days," said Representative Charles Rangel, a New York Democrat who has attended many of the president's meetings. "That has to say to people back home, 'Africa ain't what you think it is.'" It has gone beyond ally Struthers on television, saying, 'Send money to this little baby.' It's time for business to take a second look."

Commerce Secretary William Daley, who is traveling with the president, is seeking to clinch deals with individual business leaders. Some of his targets are among his fellow voyagers, like Melvin Clark Jr., chief executive of Metroplex Corp., a Washington construction company; Carl Ware, who heads the Africa group at Coca-Cola Co.; Paul Allaire, chairman of Xerox Corp., which re-turned to South Africa in 1997 after a 10year absence, and Kase Lawal, the Ni-gerian-born owner of a big Houston energy and real estate firm called Camac

Others are Alma Brown, a senior vice cussing the matter in that spirit." resident of the Chevy Chase Bank in by his meeting with survivors of the retary, Kweisi Mfume, a former con-"dead on arrival" in the Senate unless Johnson, head of the Black Entertainment Television network.

Also here is the Los Angeles super-Hills mansion to President Clinton for do little to improve them.



Bill Clinton and Nelson Mandela peering through the bars of the South African president's former jail cell on led by those in Hong Kong and Taiwan, Robben Island off Cape Town on Friday. Mr. Mandela spent 18 years there as a political prisoner: account for about two-thirds of all for-

CLINTON: Mandela Stoutly Defends Ties With Cuba and Libya

Continued from Page 1

completely free access to American

markets for their exports. This is a matter over which we have serious reservations, this legislation," Mr. Mandela said. "To us, it is not acceptable. But nevertheless we accept each other's integrity, and we are dis-

A senior American official, speaking the Washington suburbs and the widow on condition that he not be identified, day after President Bill Clinton, moved of Ron Brown, the late commerce sec- said later that most of the African leaders had welcomed the bill, which Mr. Clinnan who now heads the NAACP; ton supports. He conceded that the South Ilyasah Shabazz, an aide to Mayor Em- Africans were highly dubious, but sugdeal with such crimes, Senator Jesse est Davis of Mount Vernon, New York, gested that "when the intention of the petroleum imports, the president never existed."There was no plot, none tablished one with help from Honda Helms vowed that the tribunal would be and a child of Malcolm X, and Robert act is better understood, that will erase avoided visiting it on this trip as a sign of at all," the source said. "There was no Motor Co. It joined Continental Grain

some concerns here." The bill's prospects in the Senate remain highly uncertain, and the continued timent's major economic power, would

visited South Africa in recent months, next August. But officials traveling with former President Hashemi Rafsanjani of relations with any of those countries, and to the general's candidacy. has accused all of them of violating hu-

man rights or harboring terrorists. During the question period, Mr. Clinlargest country in terms of population. almost a quarter of United States continuing disapproval of the regime credence in the report."

here. In the announcement, Mr. Mandela's Senior American officials have said office said be appointed the commission

Mr. Mandela noted that he had invited Mr. Clinton said that if General Abacha patient attitude toward China. Fidel Castro of Cuba and Moammar released political prisoners, showed re-Gadhafi of Libya and had received spect for human rights and supported a held company, is Thai-born but Chinagenuine transition to civil government, Iran. The United States has no diplomatic then the United States would not object

■ Panel to Probe Report of Plot

Mr. Mandela appointed a three-ment-new prime minister, Zhu Rongji. ton appeared to signal a change in United ber judicial panel Friday to investigate a States policy toward Nigeria, Africa's military report of a possible coup plot, largest country in terms of population. The Associated Press reported.

Although Nigeria supplies, along with A source in Mr. Mandela's office said technology and capital with the Chinese its neighbors Equatorial Guinea and Gathe commission would investigate why market. When China wanted a modern the military report spoke of a plot that

opposition of South Africa, the contact that the United States would find it actionvestigate "a report which he received timent's major economic power, would ceptable if General Sani Abacha took off from the South African National Defense blittle to improve them. In this uniform and ran as a "civilian" can be of the control of the co

ISRAEL: Netanyahu Finds His Way Along the Tight Middle Road

Continued from Page 1

reacting to news reports a week ago that of his allies. "I think he has really played it rather brilliantly," said Rabbi David Clayman, head of the American Jewish Congress in Jerusalem. "He has angered everyone, but he has kept all the players at the table: the president, the Palestinian Authority, the right wing, and the American Jewish community. Nobody has walked away."

e court will operate.

Mr. Netanyahu campaigned on a platform of relentless criticism of the U.Slished by international treaty as early as sponsored Mideast peace process, but July. U.S. membership would have to be since he took office in June 1996, he has approved by the Senate. turned over 80 percent of Hebron to the Before Mr. Helms's letter, the idea of Palestinians. He has agreed to carry out public opinion survey released Friday turned over 80 percent of Hebron to the compromise had already been dispelled , further withdrawals mentioned in previby an American proposal that would ous peace accords, although he now is balking over the size of the second of those scheduled withdrawals. The first was re-

jected as too small by the Palestinians. If he carries out the withdrawal now at the heart of the dispute with the Americans, he will have returned to Palestinian control the last of nearly 40 percent of the West Bank, this in a government that considers the Biblical udea and Sumaria of the West Bank to be God-given Jewish land.

bloc. "But his government won't fall. He will compromise on something that no one will have to sacrifice himself over." Privately, Mr. Netanyahn's lieuten-

ants have suggested he would be willing to go up to an 11 percent withdrawal to avoid a showdown with Washington. rael's extreme right has no good altern-This would be "enough to say he fought ative partners and that "the Palestinians the good fight," one observer said. That seems to be what Israelis want. A

showed a plurality of 43 percent of Israeli adults supported "a compromise somewhere in the middle" of the positions of the U.S. and Israeli governments. An overwhelming 75 percent said they wanted the peace process continued on the basis of the 1993 Oalo accord, the master plan for the current withdrawal schedule. It is that support that has tested Mr. Netanyahn's political pragmatism. Although his government was formed around the banner of opposition to the

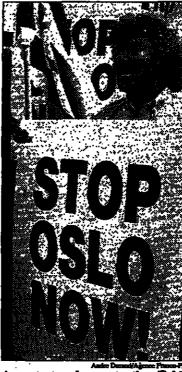
the peace process enough to give his to meet the terms of the agreement. supporters a feeling of success.

"Netanyahu has started to move from the right to the center, and on the way he has lost a few friends," said Dan Tichon, with the Palestinians. "He will say yes at the end of the day. But then he will find a member of the prime minister's Likad an excuse to slow everything down." Mr. Pundak said that the opposition Labor Party was "frozen whenever Netanyahu plays the patriot and says it's for security," that the United States "doesn't want everything to collapse," that Is-

> have no other choice but to accept." Indeed, the Palestinians have demanded that Israel withdraw from territory equal or larger than the present 27 percent that they hold, but have been unwilling to relieve the pressure on Mr. Netanyahu by rejecting the American proposal for 13.1 percent. "I'm not asking for the moon," Mr. Arafat complained Friday, while avoid-

ing an open embrace of any plan.
"You can see a certain degree of success in Netanyahu's government," said Michael Oren, an Israeli busines overnment that considers the Biblical Atmongn his government was formed and Sumaria of the West Bank to e God-given Jewish land.

Atmongn his government was formed and Israeli Oushiess had a protester demonstrating Friday last year. To date, it has laid off about the terms of reference. He's made his in Jerusalem as Mr. Netanyahu 1500 workers at Ek Chor Motoscycle tlements in the West Bank, and slowed flict among the Palestinians to take steps position the position of discussion."



met the U.S. envoy, Dennis Ross. alone.

be paid. He was successful in attaching an new set of demands on the United Nations to an

Continued from Page 1

The "sense of the Senate" amend- movie stars from Sylvester Stallone to Antonio ment asks that the United Nations thank Banderas are searching for their own Patagonian

"We took one look at Patagonia and knew we'd the organization's peacekeeping budget found paradise," said Bo Turner, who runs her to 25 percent from 31 percent — as father's ranches worldwide. "And the best part is Congress has already legislated — and that there's enough room for everyone. But not everyone agrees. Indeed, the foreign

Mr. Helms said in introducing his Chubut, one of the four Argentine states that make up Patagonia, issued the most dire prediction when merous dictatorships. parently referring to costs incurred by he said: "If we don't stop this tendency, very dark

There is real talk of building subdivisions and nia's rugged terrain. Wealthy Europeans, including Ditmar, the Patagonian real estate czar.

golf courses in the land where authors and poets once wrote about the brooding gauchos, South American cowboys who wrangled cattle and cor-ralled sheep in Patagonia's valleys. As a result, there is an effort by local legislators to stiffen laws regulating foreign purchase of land here.

The new owners, however, dismiss the controversies. "Come on, 80 percent of Manhattan is owned by the Japanese," Bo Turner said. "We might not like it, but it's life, you know. You just accept it. Patagonia is a natural paradise. The real surprise is that it took so long to be discovered." since Jan. 1, 1990. The amendment too much Argentine territory is being put into passed, 90 to 10.

"While UN crybabies whine about the frontier with Chile, with which remains one of the most sparsely populated regions." remains one of the most sparsely populated regions valries have always been high.

On Earth; about 1.8 million people are spread across
Opponents also say the spoiling of one of the
260,000 square miles, (673,400 square kilometers) the United States volunteered more than globe's most stunningly beautiful regions is now a density of seven to the square mile. It has exthree times what we were asked to pay," under way. Perhaps Carlos Maestro, governor of perienced fits and starts of development — with the busts usually being attributed to Argentina's nu-

> The railroads built by the British in the 19th century opened up transportation through Patago-

royalty, soon poured in, buying up huge tracts of land and importing quail, deer and wild boar for hunting and trout for fly fishing. Rich Argentines also moved in, raising cattle and sheep.

Today, as Argentina settles into a newfound democracy and a relatively stable economy, the area again is witnessing a real estate boom. But this time, almost half of the buyers are from the United States, as new roads and phone systems in Patagonia have made it more practical for celebrities and corporate titans to buy here.

"I bought 12,500 acres with one of the best fishing rivers in the world — I just caught a 30-pound fish in here — for \$1.5 million," Jeff Wells, president of a customer service company based in Golden, Colorado, said while riding on horseback with his family. "The same thing would have cost me \$30 million in Colorado, if you could even find it."

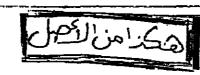
But the bargains are fading fast. The tide of dollars has driven up prices where land once could be bought for \$20 an acre. "Now, some people are asking \$3 million for property that was on the market at \$1 million two years ago," said Mr. Van

Regardless of what one thinks of the new residents, they have altered life in a place where the local gossip used to consist of nothing more thrilling than swapping sheep-shearing stories.

Excited locals now exchange notes on Fonda sightings - once she was spotted in full hiking gear, climbing ber mountain with packs of guides. And last month, Mr. Kissinger stayed at Arroyo Verde, the Lariviere place next to Ted and Jane's, sparking media speculation he was out to buy the ranch.

That rumor, however, is untrue. 'You know, he likes Ted a lot, but he doesn't really care for Jane, you know," conspiratorially whispered Maurice Lariviere, 73, Meme's husband and one of the old wealthy landowners here. "It was all that Hanoi business in Vietnam. She was too radical for his

The Clintons made a media splash here during their state visit in October, when they went on a private yacht ride to Arrayanes, a petrified forest near the upscale ski resort of Bariloche. The forest is widely believed to have been Walt Disney's inspiration for the backdrop of the movie "Bambi."



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Ferry Porsche was born on

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Sept. 19, 1909, in Wiener-Property of the Property. World War I, the Porsches China tgart, where Ferry's father moved permanently to Stutwas appointed chief engineer of Daimler-Benz, manufacturer of Mercedes cars. Day line Care and inste precocious, coldly analytical Remains knowledge of automobile technology during a race in which a driver on the Daimler team was killed. www. in the west man wrote in his autobiography, and the same of the B and Continends on until the wreckage came to

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Another roa on water to -e - Charocalie China China charge of the Daimler-Benz Stein. car team, first met Hitler, a Street Street Charge man early stage in his rise to power. S. Aug As chancellor eight years 73 The Late of the 2 Charter help manifest dustry should later, Hitler decreed that the The managed accomplish non Tel Ten touble the market or similar

Sports-Car Creator By Jonathan Kandell For Hitler's old friend, Ferdinand Porsche, who had New York Times Service started his own consulting Ferdinand (Ferry) Porsche, and design firm, this soon 88, creator of the famous Gertranslated into lucrative conman sports car that bore his tracts with the big German family name and the son of manufacturers. In 1934, the the legendary engineer who designed the Volkswagen Porsches were asked by Hitler to build a "people's Beetle, died Friday in Zell-

n-See, Austria. that the working class could afford. But mass production ngineer and entrepreneur, of the Volkswagen was post-Mr. Porsche and his father, poned because of war. also named Ferdinand, were Like so many German insymbols of the rise of an am-dustrialists, Ferry Porsche bitious breed of German indisclaimed moral responsibildustrialists who thrived under ity for the uglier aspects of his the Nazis, rose from the ashes involvement with the Third of wartime defeat, and were Reich. Though he was an nearly toppled by the bickhonorary officer in the SS, he said that he accepted the apering and sexual antics of pointment because "there

car" - the Volkswagen -

Porsche AG was founded was no way I could refuse." by Ferry's father. The After the war, the Porsches Porsche company grew rich suffered a setback when their on military contracts until Alcontract to produce the lied bombs in World War II Volkswagen was rescinded obliterated the factories that by the new democratic government of Konrad Adenauer. In the aftermath of World Volkswagen was made into War II, Ferry Porsche decided an independent company, but to defy conventional wisdom Anton Piech, Ferry Porsche's and craft a luxury sports car in brother-in-law, was appoina nation so prostrated that its ted its first chairman. inhabitants could barely af-

Even before his father's ford motorcycles. Within a death in 1951, Ferry had few years, his sports car taken control of Porsche opreached the pinnacle of the erations. It was at his insistautomotive trade, and has reence that the company started mained there in the eyes of to build its own cars, instead of just designing vehicles for With recognition came imother manufacturers. mense wealth: The Porsche

The first automobile to carry the Porsche label was the 356 roadster. Designed by Ferry himself and put into generation of Porsches. Their production in 1950, it had an engine almost at mid-chassis that Ferry Porsche, who had to lend greater stability.

The notion of creating a become chairman of the company's supervisory board, ex- new, expensive sports car in a pelled them from managecountry left impoverished by ment of the firm. The outsiders war seemed irrational from a he brought in to run the combusiness point of view. But pany achieved a mixed record Ferry had a remarkably effective strategy --- he was offering an automobile that But contrary to rumors from time to time that it would could be driven both in combe sold, Porsche has remained petition and in urban traffic.

> Duncan MacElhone, 43, Owner of Harry's Bar

Neustadt, Austria. After Duncan MacElhone, 43, owner of the famous Paris watering hole Harry's New York Bar for the last nine years, has died of liver disease, a family friend said Friday.

Mr. MacElhone died Wed-At age 12, he displayed his nesday evening following complications from surgery said the friend, Peter Mikel-

Mr. MacElhone was a third-generation owner of Harry's. He took the reins "I was fascinated by seeing a race-car crash for the from his father, Andy, in windin first time," Ferry Porsche 1989. Andy's father was Harry, who catered to Ernest "Cars Are My Life," and I Hemingway and watched everything that went first Bloody Mary. Hemingway and mixed the

Founded in 1911, Harry's was the Paris hangout of the Another road race, in 1925, Lost Generation, serving changed the destiny of the drinks and American food to Porsches. It was there that the Herningway, Scott and Zelda older Porsche, who was in Fitzgerald and Gertrude

Duncan took over the bar in racing buff who was still at an 1989, seven years before his father died of a heart attack at

Harry's, which says the Bloody Mary drink was in-vented in the establishment in of Nazism by designing the 1919, will remain managed fastest race cars in the world. by the family. (AP, Reuters)

BRIEFLY

New Ally for India's Hindu Party

NEW DELHI --- Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee looked set Friday to win a close vote of confidence in Parliament after another regional party from outside his Hindu coalition said it would abstain.

The National Conference, a regional party that governs India's only Muslim-majority state, Jammu and Kashmir, said its two lawmakers in the federal Parliament would not take part in the confidence vote Saturday.

On Monday, a powerful regional party with a dozen deputies, the Telugu Desam Party, aligned itself with the governing coalition when Mr. Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party backed the party's candidate for speaker of the legislature. The Telugu Desam Party also vowed to abstain from the confidence vote.

Korea Food-Aid Deal Reached

BELIING — North and South Korean Red Cross officials agreed Friday on how to deliver 50,000 tons of food from the South to the North, overcoming snags over monitoring the delivery.

North Korea agreed to allow Red Cross monitors to observe the food delivery in one or two zones outside the onserve the root delivery in one of two zones outside the area where the Red Cross already operates, said Lee Byung Woong, secretary-general of the South Korean Red Cross.

South Korea had wanted more extensive monitoring to

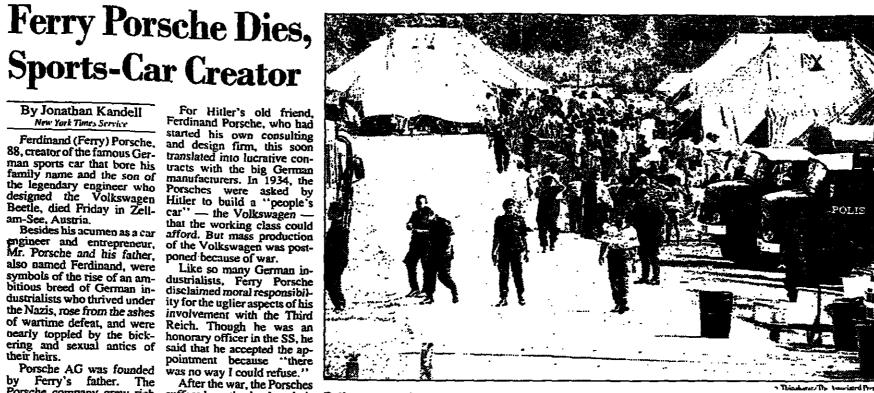
ensure the food aid reaches its intended recipients. It has delivered 100,000 tons of aid in previous shipments. The aid will include flour, cooking oil, salt and fertilizer, Mr. Lee said at a briefing. Delivery is scheduled by

the end of May. The port of Rajin was added to previous points for shipment, Mr. Lee added. (AP, Reuters)

For the Record

The Khmer Rouge, in a radio broadcast monitored Friday in Phnom Penh, rejected a government claim that defectors from the guerrilla force had seized its headquar-ters in northern Cambodia and that its leaders, including the former chief, Pol Pot, had escaped. (Reuters)

Paraguay's Supreme Court confirmed Friday that Lino Oviedo, a retired general, can run for president in May elections, despite being sentenced March 9 to 10 years in prison for a 1996 coup attempt.



Policemen and illegal immigrants Friday at the Malaysian detention center at Semenyih.

Burma Rebels Kill 15 Near Thai Border

BANGKOK - Karen rebels attacked guerrillas allied with the Burmese military government and "Our so killed as many as 15 people near the are angry," tense border Friday, hours before the

regime celebrated Armed Forces Day with parading troops in the capital.

The Karen National Union said in Bangkok that 100 of its fighters them." staged the attack inside Burma in revenge for a series of cross-border equipped with grenade launchers raids by pro-government forces

against refugee camps in Thailand. Army, a splinter group allied with rebel spokesman asserted. the Burmese government, has crossed the border from bases in that at least 15 people, including armed insurgents.

ing down two camps and firing mor- 20 others injured in the raid Tuesday tars at another.

"Our soldiers and our villagers 'Ner Dah, a spokesman for the Karen National Union, said in Bangkok. "They attack us, they attack our people several times. insurgents amid a massive display Now, we want to give a little back to of military might.

The rebels mustered 100 fighters and assault rifles and attacked a military camp of Karen and govern-The Democratic Karen Buddhist ment troops Thursday night, the

Burma repeatedly this month, burn- some civilians, had been killed and

In Rangoon, meanwhile, the Burmese junta marked the 53d annual Armed Forces Day by extending an "olive branch" to armed

military is extending the olive camps in Kuala Lumpur, Malaybranch and keeping the door open sia," a spokesman, Kris Janowski, for the remnants," Prime Minister said in Geneva. "We have no in-Than Shwe said in a speech. Anadependent information on how lysts in Rangoon said the comment many died as we are not in the was directed at the Karen National detention camps," he added. A Thai border police official said Union, the country's only remaining

Malaysia Won't Stop Illegals' Deportations

Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad vent congestion at the camps and said Friday that Malaysia would that they had the full cooperation of continue deporting illegal immi-grants despite nine deaths in an up-He said that 700 Indo ising at a detention camp and crit-

icism from human-rights groups. central Port Klang on Friday and Mr. Mahathir defended the use of that the current round of deporta-The immigrants "attacked first and caused the death of a police-

man," the official Bernama news Thursday for the port of Lhokseuagency quoted Mr. Mahathir as saying. "The incident will not affect our decision to send them back." But human rights groups said the deaths of immigrants at the Semenvih camp. 40 kilometers southeast of the capital, raised concerns about the safety of the thousands of

for an investigation. Amnesty International, which is based in London, said the deaths of the eight Indonesians raised "serious questions" about the deportation process.

remaining immigrants, and called

The rights group said it was con-"about the level of force cerned ' used by the Malaysian authorities' and urged a full inquiry and checks by independent sources at the

United Nations refugee agency also expressed concern and said it was seeking access to

asylum-seekers from Sumatra. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees said it was "deeply con-'I would like to state here that our cerned about the deaths in detention

> The Malaysian police chief, (AP. AFP) Rahim Noor, was quoted by

Bernama as saying that the depor-KUALA LUMPUR - Prime tations had to be carried out to pre-

He said that 700 Indonesians were sent back from Malaysia's central Port Klang on Friday and

force by the police to put down rioting immigrants at three camps.

tions would go on until Sunday.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas of Indonesia said in Jakarta that 545 deportees left the port of Lumut on

> mawe in northern Sumatra. Malaysian authorities have said about 1,500 Indonesians had been put aboard ships, including an Indonesian naval vessel, for repatriation across the narrow Malacca Strait dividing the two countries.

57 More Algerians Reported Killed

The Associated Press ALGIERS - Armed groups killed 57 persons in two massacres overnight, security forces said Friday.

In the first attack, in the village of Bensekrane near the Moroccan border, the throats of 11 people were slit in what has become the hallmark of attacks by Islamic militants. In Djelfa, 250 kilometers (155 miles) south of

Algiers, 46 people were killed. More than 75,000 people have died in Algeria's Islamic insurgency, which flared after the military-backed government canceled parliamentary elections in 1992 that the Islamic Salvation Front was poised to win.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Guilt Trip to Africa

national contrition on his current swing through Africa, raised eyebrows on otherwise or to maintain that all this two continents. He expressed regrets for slavery, for the Cold War coddling of some African dictators and for what he calls America's slowness to respond to genocide in Rwanda. These subjects lie outside traditional diplomacy. His words expose him to the charge that for personal and political reasons he is advertising a lopsided and gramitous

vision of the country he represents. Still, he is addressing themes deeply relevant to the United States and Africa. Formative developments such as slavery and the Cold War, the continuing African mass upheavals these are on American minds and on African minds as well.

Most Washington talk of foreign affairs goes to matters of policy. The current, quiet policy argument centers on whether the administration has tilted too much toward development and stability as against democracy and human rights. It is necessary to remember, after all, that much African misery is the handiwork of tyrannical postcolonial African governments that were

Bill Clinton, by his excursions into brutal to their own people and ransacked their own treasuries. To pretend was strictly a consequence of American support for a few truly crummy African leaders is condescending.

Rwanda's bloody warfare was only one example of a persisting chaos. The quest for an understanding of these things should not slacken.

Mr. Clinton identified neglect as

"the biggest mistake America ever made with Africa over the long run. His trip was designed to counter that neglect. An admission of neglect carries an implicit promise to pay closer attention. The president, who early in his trip hailed a prospective African 'renaissance,' has not offered new ideas to match. But some old ideas not just aid but trade and investment are still good. Support for Africa's institutional and physical infrastructures should proceed as fast as Africa's own participation permits. The Clinton concern for genocide should translate swiftly into international programs to spare new victims and rescue Africa's millions of refugees.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

Guns and Children

The schoolyard massacre in Jonesboro, Arkansas, on Tuesday has prompted talk about the Southern gun culture and how it may have contributed to the tragedy. Yet the societal sickness the shootings exemplify children with easy access to guns and ammunition — is not confined to any one region of the country.

Guns are showing up in schools across the nation with alarming frequency. Students in at least five other states have fired on classmates or teachers in the past two and a half years. The day after the Arkansas shootings, a 4-year-old boy in Cleveland, Ohio, was sent home from his day-care center after a teacher found a loaded gun hidden in his clothing, and a 13-year-old in Daly City, California, was arrested for attempting to murder his principal with a semiautomatic pistol.

In a 1993 national survey of 6th- to 12th-graders, 15 percent said they had carried a gun in the last month, and 4 percent said they had taken a gun to school in the previous year. Most of these guns are not bought from

strangers on the street. They are brought in from the child's own home. Thus it is not surprising that at least some of the high-powered murder weapons used by the two boys in Arkansas were taken from the house of the grandfather of the 11-year-old suspect. The two boys reportedly went there looking for guns after they were unable

to break into the locked gun storage vault kept by the 11-year-old's father. Fifteen states have passed laws in recent years requiring adults either to store loaded guns in a place that is reasonably inaccessible to children, or to use a gun lock that makes the gun inoperable. If a child obtains an improperly stored gun in those states, the adult owner is criminally liable.

This week's gunfire in Jonesboro should galvanize lawmakers in Arkansas and other laggard states - including New York - to take this concrete step to keep guns out of the hands of kids. With gun ownership comes a heavy responsibility to ensure the pub-

-THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Reporters at Risk

Reporters in Latin America are still dodging bullets. Of 26 journalists killed worldwide in 1997, 10 were in Latin America, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. But an arrest warrant is a more common danger. Government officials are bringing criminal charges against journalists who report on official crime and corruption, giving in many countries.

investigative reporter, José Arrieta. While at Si magazine, Mr. Arrieta reported that a death squad run by the government's intelligence services committed a notorious massacre in 1992. One of his sources even led him to the bodies. Mr. Arrieta moved to a television station. Channel 2, where he broke more stories about murder, torture and illegal wiretapping by the intelligence services.

Last year the government of Alberto Fujimori revoked the Peruvian citizenship of Channel 2's owner, Israel-born Baruch Ivcher, and put the station in the hands of its supporters. An arrest warrant was issued accusing Mr. Arrieta of falsifying his stories. A courageous judge knocked it down. But Mr. Arrieta, certain that the government will try again, is in Miami applying for

The most widespread form of intimidation is to charge reporters with defamation, a criminal offense in most of Latin America. Last year two New York Times reporters were charged by the Mexican government, which frequently uses this law against reporters, but the charges were dropped. Panama has turned the law against Gustavo Gorriti, an editor at the newspaper La Prensa. Irritated by his reporting on drug corruption, the government tried to deport Mr. Gorriti, who had moved to Panama after being kidnapped by the security services in his native Peru. When that failed, Panama revived what appears to be a spurious case against him for defaming a government official and falsifying evidence. He faces a six-year sentence if convicted.

The spread of drug corruption has made Latin governments particularly eager to curb investigative reporting, but pressures for a free press are also growing. One source is public opinion. as the media are respected and trusted

In Peru, one current target is an strongly. So has the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States. Its rulings have repeatedly defended free speech, and recently it established a special rapporteur to investigate violations of press freedom.

Overturning restrictive laws, however, is not enough. Governments are able to use the courts against reporters because judicial independence is a fiction in many countries. Independent journalism is only possible with an independent judiciary. —THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment Europe Can't Do the Job

The responsibility which the European Union must bear in Kosovo is Europe's responsibility for itself. Yet it seems that for the indefinite future Europe will still not be able to enforce respect for human rights and peace without NATO, and hence without American leadership.

A "trip wire" contingent of NATO troops, as is already stationed in Macedonia, might well be able to prevent the outbreak of major hostilities in Kosovo. But even the initiative to prevent the spread of the Bosnian war and contain any potential conflict in Macedonia was American. That contingent presently operates under a UN mandate, but experience has shown that neither the EU nor the UN alone can enforce peace in the Balkans.

--- Neue Zürcher Zeitung (Zurich).

Herald Tressurrows. Cribune

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Here Comes an Unemployment Crisis for China

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — The irony of the Asian financial crisis is that China, seemingly least involved, is about to suffer the most monumental consequences.

Events in East Asia have suddenly driven home to Beijing the costs of inappropriate bank lending and capital misallocation. Reforms put off for years, even decades, are now being carried out in rapid-fire succession.

Within the past month Beijing has embarked on a wholesale restructuring of the financial system. Whether successful or not, these measures will shake the foundations of China's economic, social and political order.

As recently as last November, policy elites in Beijing were still expressing confidence that China could skirt most of the turmoil affecting the rest of Asia. The triggers of financial upheaval in South Korea and Indonesia — currency speculation, rapid devaluation, sudden withdrawal of foreign loans - seemed irrelevant to the Chinese situation. China's currency is not convertible on world markets, and domestic firms carry very little foreign-denominated debt.

But deeper lessons regarding the hazards of accumulated bad loans and the potential for financial collapse have begun to register in Beijing.
The source of China's trouble lies in

its ailing state enterprises, which employ most of the nation's urban workers. Two decades ago, at the dawn of reform, Chinese leaders committed themselves to keeping state firms afloat By Edward Steinfeld

in order to maintain full urban employment. That commitment has necessitated massive infusions of capital.

In the early 1980s, subsidies to state enterprises came as direct allocations. from the central budget. This practice proved unsustainable over time as the capital requirements of state firms grew while the fiscal capacity of the state declined. The country experienced phenomenal economic growth, but primarily in the non-state and nonurban portions of the economy, precisely those sectors that the government could not adequately tax.

Short of fiscal revenue, the government by the mid-1980s had made a fateful decision to shift the burden of funding state industry from the govemment's budget to the nation's financial system, its state banks. At the time, few decision-makers were willing to contemplate the other option, simply cutting subsidies to firms and allowing unemployment levels to escalate. A number of policies were estab-

lished to ensure that the savings de-posits of ordinary households got funneled into failing state companies. Throughout the banking system, lend-ing quotas were established to force funds to flow from high-growth regions dominated by non-state industry to low-growth regions dominated by traditional state industry.

The central government ordered in-

cific state enterprises. Or local gov-ernments pressured state banks to infuse favored firms with "soft" loans.

The upshot over time has been a thorough undermining of the nation's banking system. In essence, national investment resources — household savings - have been systematically directed to nonviable firms.

In 1996, state enterprises produced only 35 percent of China's total industrial output value but held 69 percent of the banking system's outstanding long-term loans, and 55 percent of its short-term loans. Levels of nonperforming debt in the system, estimated conservatively at 25 percent of GDP, are even higher than those of China's troubled East Asian neighbors.

ing system is currently insolvent. The East Asian crisis has spurred Chinese leaders into action. Just in the past month, lending quotas throughout the state banking sector have been sum-marily abolished. Local bank branches, particularly in the south, have been aggressively recentralized by Beijing, thus depriving local governments of the power to exert pressure for soft loans. Policy lending by the center is

To put it simply, the Chinese bank-

While these drastic and truly revolutionary measures are obviously needed, they will have a devastating impact on Chinese society. State firms today employ approximately 65 per-uted this to The Washington Post.

being severely restricted.

dividual banks to extend "policy loans" cent of China's urban workers. As -noncommercial giveaways - to spe- credit is summarily cut, unemployment will surge, particularly in the industrial northeast, where entire 'company towns' will be put out of business. The country's fiscal resources are insufficient for setting up any sort of comprehensive social safety net Workers are being cut loose, and precious little is in place institutionally to catch them when they fall.

Policymakers are caught in a nasty predicament. Doing nothing and allowing a continuation of state-sector bailouts raises the specter of a total banking collapse. Indeed, policymakers already fear that with all the news of East Asian trouble rolling in, Chinese depositors will remove their savings from the banks and thus lay bare the insolvency of the system.

Yet undertaking the measures needed to preserve the financial system almost guarantees massive unemploy-ment and social dislocation in China's cities. From the policymakers' perspective, it is truly a "damned if you do, damned if you don't" situation.

The question is whether measures needed over the long term will create an intolerable situation over the short term. The new Year of the Tiger is certain to be a critical juncture in China's economic coming of age.

The writer, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of Management, contrib-

Netanyahu Is Harming Israel's Alliance With America

By Henry Siegman

NEW YORK — Unnoticed in the controversy surrounding the American "bridging" proposals intended points stand between the Amerto get the stalled Middle East ican plan and what Mr. Netpeace process moving again is anyahu's government was the fact that the American plan ready to give in any case, lightfor an Israeli withdrawal from a years separate the American plan from Palestinian expecta-tions. According to Chemi further 13.1 percent of the West Bank is an astounding victory for Prime Minister Benjamin Shalev, the areas "gained" by Netanyahu and a major defeat Israel under the American proposal represent 30 to 40 percent of the West Bank. for the Palestinians.

Although the Oslo accords did not specify the exact pro-Palestinians have been bludgeoned into going along with a portions of the three sequential withdrawals to which Israel committed itself, there was nevproposal that until recently would have been seen as requiring a total Palestinian surer any question but that the broad intention was to achieve render to Israel's far right. an Israeli redeployment from a It is a prospect that Mr. Netdecisive majority of the West anyahu and his supporters could

tlements and military sites. As noted by Chemi Shalev, writing in the Israeli newspaper Ma'ariv, "the gap between the administration's plan and the original intentions of the Oslo agreements is enormous.

Bank, apart from Jewish set-

While only a few percentage position at the risk of creating a historic rupture between Israel and the United States and of losing the remarkable gains he has achieved for his policies. Especially puzzling is the in-

eptness of the Labor opposition and of its leader Ehud Barak. Instead of endorsing the American plan, recognizing that it demands far less from Israel than what the Labor Party contemplated when it agreed to the three redeployments in the West Bank, Mr. Barak counsels that Israel accept only an 11 percent withdrawal — instead of the 9 percent that Mr. Netanyahu pro-

posed. Meanwhile, he blasts Mr. Netanyahu for putting Israel in a position of having to yield to an American diktat. This is so convoluted and disingenuous a position as to make Mr. Netanyahu seem a

Having achieved so many of his objectives, to the point of

nearly destroying the Oalo ac-cords altogether (which in fact may be his main objective), how can Mr. Netanyahu not agree to a compromise with

Washington's position? He is reported to have offered a two-digit redeployment, still less than 13 percent. It is far from clear, however, that this compromise is anything other than the latest twist in his so far successful strategy of delaying endlessly any further Israeli with-drawals from the West Bank.

Mr. Netanyahu still insists on standards for Palestinian "reciprocity" that will give him ample opportunity to blame the Palestinians for his failure to

implement the agreement. Even if he is finally acting in good faith, it is difficult to assess the damage he has done to Israel's relations with the United States.

deterrent without parallel in the Middle East. A perception by Herald Tribune.

the countries of the region that this alliance has weakened would seriously damage Israel's strategic security interests.

Mr. Netanyahu has skillfully exploited partisan rivalries be-tween the U.S. Congress and the White House, but at what cost? As Israelis learned in the 1973 war, when push comes to shove it is the president, not Congress, who can take quick and risky actions that have existential consequences for their country.

Mr. Netanyahu's message to Mr. Clinton has been that when it comes to Israel's security, a subject he construes so broadly as to empty it of any real con-tent, the United States should butt out. It is a message that Mr. Clinton may remind him of the next time he asks America to intervene on behalf of Israel.

The writer, a senior fellow at A strong alliance with the the Council on Foreign Relaworld's only superpower is a tions, contributed this personal comment to the International

Biological Weapons: Russia May Be the Biggest Threat

By Ken Alibek

not have dreamed of two years ago. But instead of embracing the American proposal and

claiming victory, he insists on

portraying it as an American "imposition" on Israel that

commonises its vital security.
Mr. Netanyahu has taken this

RLINGTON, Virginia --A You got back from your business trip to Europe a few days ago, and this morning you are not feeling well. You have developed a fever and a severe help. Your doctor diagnoses the flu and sends you home to rest. these diseases under natural conditions. But your condition worsens.

By evening you have developed a nasty cough and are spitting up some blood. Your doctor changes his diagnosis to pneumonia and prescribes antibiotics, but it's too late. The cough rapidly worsens,

and the next evening you die not before realizing that your family and the friends who stopped by while you were ill have developed fevers and

Similar illnesses crop up all over the country. The final diagnosis: plague, released by a terrorist on your 747 as you slumbered peacefully between Brussels and New York.

Are biological weapons really so effective and terrifying? My answer, based on more than 20 years' work in bioweapons research, development and testing in the former Soviet Union and Russia, is an

unqualified "ves." These weapons are attractive to some nations and terrorist groups because they are relatively easy and inexpensive to produce and can cause wide-spread illness, death and panic. And the effect of these weapons is not immediately obvious, which allows time for the ter-

A treaty banning production of bio-weapons, the 1972 Bi-ological Weapons Convention, is in effect and has more than 140 signatories, but it contains no significant enforcement mechanisms. Many signatory countries, including Russia and Iraq,

Tokyo subway in 1995 using nerve gas, had also obtained anthrax bacteria, although it never perfected a way to disperse it. How can we mitigate the

threat of biological terrorism? Far too much hope is being placed in vaccines. Even if vaccines existed for every possible agent, and they do not, it would be impossible to inoculate every person in a country against dozens of diseases. Instead we should devote re-

sources to preventing disease

from occurring after exposure, a cover for biological weapons and to treating the disease that does occur. Such research would have the added benefit of headache, and aspirin doesn't helping those who contract

We must also prepare thorough plans for responding to any act of biological terrorism. That includes deciding who would respond to the emergency and how, as well as details like quarantine procedures and shipment of medications. While we prepare for terrorist attacks, however, we must

not forget state-sponsored bioweapons programs. The lure of such weapons is substantial. Biological weapons were so attractive to the Soviet Union that it risked international censure and spent vast resources to produce them. The Soviet program reached its hey-

day in the 20 years after the Soviets ratified the 1972 treaty. The Soviet program was easily the most sophisticated in the world. At its height, 32,000 people worked for Biopreparat, the civilian pharmaceutical and vaccine company that served as

THERE is only one real an-

Technical experts must be

free to go anywhere - to breweries, biotech companies, fer-

tilizer plants that are perfectly

legitimate but easily converted to disease factories - at ran-

President Bill Clinton argues

on behalf of the U.S. pharma-

ceutical and biotech industries

that random inspections would

expose trade secrets. But there

are straightforward technical

means of allowing inspectors to seek evidence without reveal-

ing a confidential gene se-

Some negotiators in Geneva

question whether the United

States is not hiding behind the

worries of its biotech compa-

nies to avoid inspections that

might reveal more biological

weapons research than Washington would like to admit.

Brussels correspondent for the

weekly New Scientist, writing

Debora MacKenzie,

in the Los Angeles Times.

quence or production process.

dom, on short notice.

tion, and watch everyone.

Who Fears Teeth? swer: Give teeth to the 1972 Biological Weapons Conven-

rorists to escape.

have flouted its provisions. The Aum Shinrikyo cult, which killed 12 people in the

work. An additional 10,000 or so worked in Defense Ministry bioweapons laboratories, and thousands of others were scattered

through other agencies.

The Soviets had the capacity to produce huge amounts of many different agents. The hundreds of tons of anthrax and dozens of tons of smallpox and plague agents they stockpiled could be loaded into bombs and missiles for use within days. After the demise of the So-

viet Union, Russia's biological weapons program was shut down by order of President Boris Yeltsin in 1992. Or was it? As the first deputy director of Biopreparat in the late 1980s and early 1990s, I was fully aware of plans for future research and development in the area of bio-weapons. Today, when I read the recent work of my former colleagues in scientific publications, it is hard for me to imagine that their ef-

logical weapons. Russian scientists have created genetically altered antibiotic-resistant strains of plague, anthrax tularemia and glanders. They are working to create a strain of anthrax that will overcome the immune system. They have been developing methods for genetically altering small-pox virus while preserving its virulence. They have develope techniques for cultivating Mar-

forts have no relation to bio-

burg and Machupo viruses. And this is just some of the published work of Biopreparat scientists, who are supposedly no longer involved in the development of weapons.

Most international experts and American officials believe that they are not doing this work, but I fear that their published studies are just the tip of the iceberg. There is almost surely more work that is not being published, and still more that is being done behind the closed doors of Defense Ministry laboratories.

In addition, a great deal of the information that Russia's scientists have published in the last decade - and continue to publish - would be of great use to other countries or terrorist groups interested in bioweapons.

A number of experts suspect that since Russia scaled back its program in 1992, some Russian researchers have been marketing

their services to other countries. Clearly, the United States has a strong interest in ensuring that these bio-weapons experts have legitimate research work to do at home, to keep Russian knowhow from reaching other countries. Some American scientists believe that the United States should be doing more to promote cooperation by expanding exchange programs and spending more to finance some Rus-

sian scientists' research. Such cooperation could be scientifically productive, since the Russians have tremendous expertise in the area of bio-offense. It could also serve to ease fears that the Russians are still developing bio-weapons, and disabuse the Russians of their mistaken notion that the United States has a similar program.

This might increase opporunities for international monitoring, and decrease the likelihood that Russian technology is being exported for use in weapons.

Unfortunately, until Russia opens its military biological eapons sites (Yekaterinburg, Kirov, Sergiyev Posad and the new facility at Strizhi) to fullscale inspections, as the United States did for American sites many years ago, such cooperation is not only senseless but also dangerous.

If we are to have any hope of eliminating biological weapons from this earth, the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention must be given teeth, primarily in the form of mandatory inspections.

Russia acceded to international pressure in 1991 and consented to inspections by the United States and Britain, but only Russia's civilian sites were opened for inspection. The interternational community must press Russia to open all of its former biological weapons laboratories, including military

ones, to inspection. Until we can be certain that the most sophisticated bioweapons program in the world has been eliminated, efforts to prepare for biological attacks and to contain the programs of terrorist groups and nations like Iraq are just so much blowing against the wind.

Mr. Alibek, a program manager at SRS Technologies, was first deputy director of the Soviet Union's main bio-weapons directorate before defecting in 1992. Jennifer L. Guernsey, his research assistant, helped in writing this commentary for The New York Times.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

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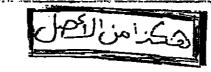
evening [March 27] says: "The truth is, the attitude of the North American Republic on the Cuban question does not give us any confidence that she will withdraw at the last hour. But will the Great Powers contemplate with indifference the disintegration of the sovereignty of a nation whose peaceful intentions are fully demonstrated? Lamentable would be the spectacle of the sanction and toleration of this exercise of brutal force against all right and reason. In commercial language, the risks and costs of the undertaking are greater than its utility from the standpoint even of the grand human ideals of justice and right."

1923: Brain Operation NEW YORK — Under the in- parties through the free flow of fluence of a local anesthetic, information and opinion."

Henry A. Brown talked to the surgeons at Beth Israel Hospital while they performed an unusually delicate operation. He talked to them while they cut through his skull and scraped out a brain turnor four inches long, two inches wide and three-quarters of an inch thick.

1948: End Censorship

GENEVA - The United States asked the nations of the world today [March 27] to eliminate censorship on all news except that "relating to the maintenance of national security." This invitation to end political censorship was contained in a draft convention proposed by the American delegation at the United Nations conference on freedom of information. The draft's preamble seeks "improved understanding between the peoples of the contracting



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ost adults who have to choose from, how do parhad the experience ents decide which one is best for their child? The decision camp days as one of the most is even more challenging for pleasant times of their lives. parents living abroad who Summer camps are not only cannot visit the camp perfun, but also foster social, sonally or meet face to face

"The most important thing a parent should do is Children get their first really think about what their taste of what it's like to be child's needs are. The biggest separated from home (while mistake is to choose the parents get a well-carned res- camp they would have liked pite from their responsibil- to go to rather than the one s ities). Is it any wonder that in most suited to their child's 1998, more than 6.5 million needs," cautions Adam 5 children will attend one of Weiss, executive director of the nearly 5,500 resident the American Camping As- #

He recommends that parents talk to their children and that existed in the parents' find out whether they want a tor of Camp Half Moon in own day, which primarily camp that focuses on serious Massachusetts, recommends offered traditional activities competitive sports or a more that parents create "camp like horseback riding, canoe-ing, team sports and camp-The average price for a four-end camping trip to acclimate outs, today's specialized week session at a private the child to the rigors of camp camps offer kids a wide array camp averages about \$2,200, life or send the child away to of programs, from weight although prices vary widely a relative for a few days to get loss to weight lifting, tennis according to programs and him or her accustomed to livaccommodations.

Parents should also consider whether their child would be more comfortable. To sort through the myriad in a large or small camp set- programs available throughting, and how far away from out the country, parents can home and for how long their consult one of the public child would be comfortable.

ing away from home.

guidance counselors who

work for the ACA or a

private consulting group

such as the National Camp-

Ultimately, says Mr.

Weiss, the parents must

speak directly with the camp

director to ensure that the

camp's program is compat-

ible with their child's needs.

For parents who live over-

seas, Mr. Weiss recommends

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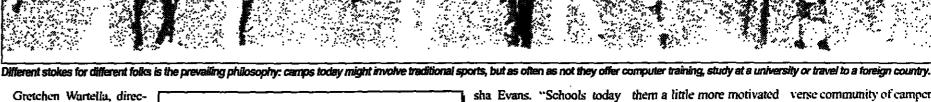
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FAST TRACK TO CAMP:

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The American Camping Association site (www.acacamps.org) provides information about the organization, lists contacts, tells how to find summer jobs and gives links to participating camps.

Private camp consultants, such as the National Camping Association (www.summercamp.org), also provide data. The NCA's site offers families worldwide information that saves on phone bills. Via e-mail, parents overseas have access to the same information available to parents in the United States. An NCA counselor evaluates an e-mailed workbook form (available on the Web site) and advises parents on the best camp for their child.

Individual camps, such as Summer Study Programs (www.summerstudy.com), Academic Study Associates (www.asaprograms.com) and Nick Bollettieri Tennis Camps (www.bollettieri.com), usually include information about a camp's programs and sometimes have applications for counselors as well.

that they start their search ferent skill levels, the type of early - by autumn if pos- camper attracted to such a begins. They should find out proving a particular activity. whether the camp director or Interested parents can conanother representative will be visiting their area.

Some U.S. camps participate in overseas camp fairs.

cessible. Parents, whether in of U.S. summer camps. the United States or overseas, can always ask for references take place on college camand speak with other par-

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though each camp has dif- portfolio," says ACA's Mar-

the world. In the increasingly compet-

staff members in Europe, and nichment programs, probably Often, these programs

puses, eschewing traditional cabins all together. Academ-

ic Study Associates offers programs on college cam-Many summer camps offer puses in the United States specialized instruction in one and Europe for about 1,000 sport. The Nick Bollettieri students each summer. ACA Tennis Camps, for example, even issues a transcript at the offer tennis, golf, baseball, end of the program, which soccer and performing arts campers can use when they camps throughout Florida for apply to college. "It helps to children aged nine to 18. Al- round out their application

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something extra. We cer- in the fall, tainly fit that profile."

At a tr

and can use the school's re-relaxed atmosphere for chiling high school students in different opportunities or this situation helps ease them hone in on one particular acinto college life, says Ms. tivity.

Study Programs at Penn- At Camp Quinebarge in New college class. They even eat in with a counselor present. the same dining hall as the college students.

Striking the balance The children in such pro-

grams should be motivated to be there - not pushed into it by their parents. 'In general, our kids want

to be here." says Exploration Summer Programs Director sible — before camp season program is serious about im- Moira Kelly. "Kids have a lot of options: If a child is not particularly intellectually tact one of Nick Bollettieri's curious or wants to have fun, 300 representatives all over they wouldn't be attracted to a program like ours."
While not summer school

Many summer camps em- itive academic world, many per se, Ms. Kelly's program ploy counselors and other children opt for academic en- tries to strike a balance between outdoor activities and some of them might be ac- the fastest-growing segment learning. "For some kids, it's a wake-up call. It makes

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sha Evans, "Schools today them a little more motivated verse community of campers encourage students to do when they go back to school and staff from a variety of

At a traditional summer parents who would like their Classes are run like sem- camp, the structure varies children to spend time with inars, with a separate faculty. from a full slate of pro- people different from them-Campers stay in dormitories grammed activities to a more selves. creational facilities. Immers- dren who prefer to explore offers the same range of ex-

Similarly, the Summer Diverse communities

sylvania State University and Hampshire, for example, the American University in children from seven to 15 can Paris allow 500 students to ride horses every day if they take at least one three-credit wish. They sleep in cabins

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backgrounds. This appeals to

In other respects, the camp periences as any summer

Most important, the kids come away with the same happy memories. •

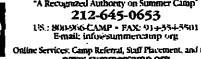
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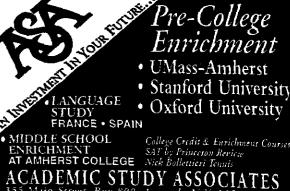
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A New Course For the Whitney

By Judith H. Dobrzynski New York Times Service

EW YORK - At the end of a wide-ranging interview one day last week, Leonard Lauder, the chairman of the Whitney Museum of American Art, leaned across the table in the museum's newly restored boardroom and said, "You

didn't ask me about my fantasy."
Then he announced: "I'd love to be director of this museum." It is, he said, the best job in America.

Lauder is not really about to give up his day job as chief executive of Estee

But with the ever troubled Whitney potentially on the verge of a new era given the April 4 opening of the first permanent-collection galleries in its 67year history and the recent resignation of its director, David Ross, Lauder was sending a signal.

No matter who replaces Ross, who is leaving to become director of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Lauder has no intention of reducing his involvement, which runs far deeper than that of most other museum chair-

In the previous hour and a half, besides playing docent in the new galleries, where works by Hopper, O'Keeffe, Calder and other artists were lined up, not yet hung, Lauder had outlined the museum's acquisition and exhibition priorities and said he wanted to hire a "superman" — a curator, administrator and fund-raiser combined - as director.

But with Lauder regularly treading in territory that is usually a director's purview, what man or woman of steel would take the job? Who would argue with a chairman who not only gives generously (most recently, \$5 million for the new galleries, plus dozens of works of art) but also personally raises

FALLING LEAVES:

The True Story of an

Unwanted Chinese

By Adeline Yen Mah. 278

THIS painful and lovely

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woman's story but, because it

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Daughter

vast amounts of money (87 percent of the \$45 million capital campaign)?

Lauder is a man who, when asked about the legacy he wants to leave is ready with a three-part answer: more than doubling the museum's endow-ment to perhaps \$100 million, adding more exhibition space and remaking its

'Oh," he said in an afterthought, "and getting a director who can lead the museum and the staff and the trustees and the art world to greatness."

The Whitney, always a bad boy of the museum world, is the smallest of the Big Four in Manhattan, It is dwarfed in pace, attendance and endowment by the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Modern (where Lauder's younger brother, Ronald Lauder, is chairman). Even the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, which is not much larger, attracts nearly three times the visitors in New York and has a \$47.7 million endow-ment, nearly 25 percent more than the Whimey's.

As they can and do encroach on its turf, the Whitney has constantly struggled to define its identity. Often, instead of playing to the "American Art" in its name, the Whitney has reacted by competing with avant-garde galleries or staging trendy or political shows that mainly attracted com-

S Lauder admits, he did not expect to be so involved when he was elected president of the board in June 1990, shortly after trustees dismissed Thomas Armstrong 3d as director. In early 1991 they settled on Ross, who admittedly had a rough time moving from the free-wheeling Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston to the much larger Whitney. Lauder plunged in, providing man-

Ross, particularly at first, staged sev-

suffered all the usual known families," the fate of grave. No one knows more

deprivations and indignities some being "prostitution or than she how sad it is that she

that in many of its particulars to most Chinese. But Ad- the despised and unwanted

weeks after her birth, of post-

delivery complications that

worse. The dreadful practice the rest of the family for her wicked stepmother had ways

of foot-binding had been mother's death. The second to wound right to the end, and

banned by Sun Yat-sen was that her father soon re- she found accomplices within

shortly after he assumed married to a beautiful French- the family. At the end of

Chinese woman whom the

Girls "were a cheap com-modity," unwanted, ones her triumph, it is couched in ductive life that has yielded

other term for mother.

"peddled as virtual slaves, sorrow and loss; the hold of her some happiness.

BOOKS

pounded by the cruelties of a should have been immune to

genuinely evil stepmother. much of this. Her father was a

Yet she not merely survived successful Shanghai busi-

all this, she triumphed over nessman, and his family en-

it, making a life for herself joyed many privileges denied

would be the envy of any eline's mother died two

Even in the late 1990s, the surely could have been dealt

trade in Chinese girl babies. The first result of this was

itudes from which it arose children called Niang, "an-

sometimes by brokers, to un- her parents reaches past the

visited upon Chinese girls of even death.

her time, in her case com-

person of either sex in any

Adeline Yen Mah, born But in the late 1920s it was far that Adeline was blamed by

power in 1911, but the at-

persisted with a vengeance.

current interest, has far larger minded by the international care and rest.



The Whitney's Leonard Lauder.

eral exhibitions that reinforced the Whitney's reputation as a showcase for what is shocking but will not necessarily last, further alienating traditionalists.

Does the Whitney still exist?" William Gerdts, an American art expert at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, said sarcastically when asked about the museum. "Once in a while Barbara Haskell does a good show, but otherwise it's become a hor-Haskell, a curator, specializes in art before 1950.

Lauder, who stepped up to chairman in 1994, has stood by Ross, who praises their partnership. While Ross has many supporters, some critics say Lauder has not reined him in enough. Still, trustees and others in the art world generally praise Lauder's contribution, especially the management expertise he lent and the support he built in the corporate

Now, the new permanent-collection galleries, which Lauder championed, might even assuage the naysayers. Situated on the museum's fifth floor, previously occupied by administrative offices and the library, they have been named the Leonard and Evelyn Lauder

wanted nothing in life so

harsh, indifferent people: "I

was the ostracized outsider

longing for acceptance; the

ugly duckling hankering to

return as the beautiful swan;

Chinese daughter obsessed

with my quest to make my

parents proud of me on some

Perhaps - in his fashion

her father did. But the

"Falling Leaves," one is left

to marvel that Adeline Yen

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Washington Post Service

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American Sculptor: A Portrait The Light and Darker Sides of Alexander Calder Rejects

By Roberta Smith New York Times Service

ASHINGTON - More than two-thirds of the way through the National Gallery of Art's lavish survey of Alexander Calder's prolific career, a small, little-known work stands out, as much for oddness as visual merit. "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man. made by the American sculptor in 1947, when he was 49 and well established, is a bright red, upright, three-legged stabile, just under a yard tall. In the prolific flow of Calder's quirky, jovial, yet es-sentially formalist art, this self-portrait strikes a darker, more personal note.

The work's topmost shape has all the charm of a raised weapon, made truly medieval by three circular excisions along its cutting edge. But it also suggests an upturned face with gaping eyes or mouths desperate for nourishment. In addition, the piece recalls the anguished horse of Picasso's "Guernica," its head thrown back in a scream. Calder, who spent much of his career alternating between France and America, had seen Picasso's antiwar picture almost as soon as it was made. "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" appears at what is more or less the peak of this 270-work exhibition, the first retrospective since 1976 in the United States. The show has been organized by Marla Prather, curator of 20th-century art at the National Gallery, and Alexander S.C. Rower, the

artist's grandson.

Adjoining galleries present Calder at his best, flying along in the 1940s and '50s; they brim with his most inspired levitational works, the signature painted metal stabiles and gently bobbing mobiles and the crystalline struc-tures called "Constellations," delineated with nothing more than lengths of wire connected by charming bits of hand-carved painted wood. These works all look great individually, but they also coalesce into magical environments, veritable gardens of elegant lines, free-floating leaf shapes and dancing shadows — all, except the shadows, given backbone by the unequivocal tones of red, black and

In the midst of this visual paradise, Calder's menacing self-portrait is like a sharp little thorn, a look behind the mask playful accessibility and userfriendly modernism. It reveals a driven, ornnivorous artist prone to borrow other artists' ideas and, at his best, rework

them for his own purposes.

One of the strengths but also one of the weaknesses of this show is that the curators seem in-

tent on making the same point, on pulling back the level. Surely some day, if I mask of Calder's great, difposition of Chinese girls is with had her father not waved tried hard enough to help strikes so many themes of often not good, as we are re- off suggestions for hospital them in dire need, they would fuse reputation, itself a form of invisibility, and letting us see his progress, step by step. At times it's slow going, an exhibition perhaps most exciting for specialists and diebard art lovers. But this may be what's necessary to give Calder the full and complex

credit he deserves. During his lifetime, he was heralded on both sides of the Atlantic. In Paris, he was friendly with, and exhibited with, the opposing camps of the Dada/Surrealists and the Abstraction-Creation Group. In New York, he was championed from the early 1930s by the Museum of Modern Art, one of three Americans to be included in Alfred H. Barr Jr.'s 1936 exhibition

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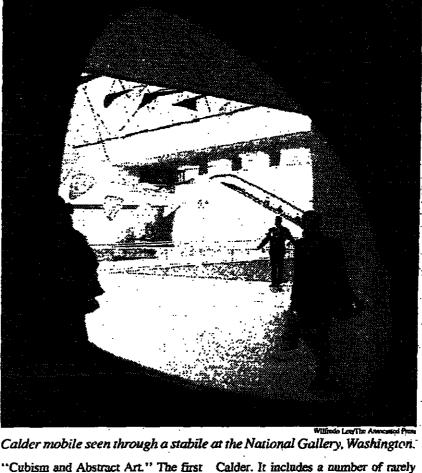
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of his many retrospectives was held there in 1943.

But by the time Calder died in 1976, the age of 78, his early radicalism could seem obscure. He had become, not unlike Henry Moore, known primaras part of the establishment, a maker of high-brow, high-profile, sometimes bland public commissions, the best of which is probably "La Grande Vitesse," the monumental red stabile that has become the civic logo of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

OMEWHAT zanier were the OMEWHAL causes what he bright patchwork designs that he created for three Braniff airplanes in the early 1970s. And the mobiles that he had perfected were being generalized by offspring beyond count, from svelte lamps and infant's crib toys to hippie wind chimes.

It's only a slight exaggeration to say

that this show may make it possible to know Calder as only Calder knew

seen works, most notably several stunning relief-type mobiles from 1936. One show-stopper, "Red Panel," whose central motif is a finned metal peanut shape, painted white on one side and green on the other, suspended from its top edge, has not been exhibited in 55 years. Also present are early, ashcanlike paintings, two dozen pieces of inventive handmade jewelry and too many inert gouaches and paintings. (Calder's best drawing took place in three dimensions.)

After earning a degree in mechanical engineering in 1919, from Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey, and then studying painting for three years at the Art Students League in New York City, Calder took up his workbench tools again in 1926, to cure a sudden infatuation with the circus, He started making his legendary 'Cirque Calder,' a miniature big top of ingeniously mechanized dolls, animals and props fashioned from scraps of

wire, cork, wood and fabric. When Calder began staging private quasi-puppet shows of the circus in Paris in 1927, and then in New York, he was an instant hit with a host of avant-garde luminaries, including Marcel Duchamp, who would be the first to ap ply the word mobile to Calder's subsequent works.

Considered one of the first examples of kinetic or performance art, the "Cirque Calder" is too delicate to travel. But Carlos Vilardebo's lovely 1961 film, 19 minutes long, of Calder animating its tiny weight lifter, trapeze artists and knife thrower, fills the gap, reveal-ing in embryo Calder's penchant for motion, suspension and witty abbreviation.

National Gallery of Art, Washington through July 12; San Francisco Museum of Art, Sept. 4 to Dec. 1.-

Buzz al Alexander Calder/Antists Rights Society, New York "Goldfish Bowl," 1929, done in steel wire.

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New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

Solution to Puzzle of March 21-22



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Netherlands Rejects Heir's Claim to Art

By Alan Riding

ARIS -- The government of the Netherlands has rejected a claim by the American heirs of a Jewish art collector to paintings that were acquired by Hermann Goering after the German occupation of the Netherlands in 1940 and that ended up on display in Dutch museums after World War II.

Deputy Culture Minister And Nuis said at a news conference in The Hague that the claim had been turned down because the immediate heir of the collector, Jacques Goudsnikker, who died in an accident in May 1940, had made a conscious decision not to seek restitution for those artworks recovered from Goering at the end of the war.

That decision was made in 1952 by Goudsnikker's widow. Desiree, who died in 1996. But it has now been challenged by the surviving heir, Mrs. Goudstikker's daughter-in-law, Marei von Saher, who has argued that the decision was made under duress and should be reversed. About 160 paintings from the Goudstikker collection are now hanging in 17 museums in the Neth-

Reached at her home in Greenwich, Connecticut, after she learned of the Dutch government's decision, von Saher said that she would press ahead with the case in court. "In some ways, I almost think this was a blessing in disguise," she said. "If they had given us a little gift or

made a little gesture, that would have been it."

Von Saher's Amsterdam lawyer, Dick Schonis, said that he had reached a provisional settlement in negotiations with Nuis, but that the deal had been rejected by the Dutch cabinet. Under the proposed arrangement, he said. Goudstikker's memory would be honored, his personal belongings would be returned to the family, and a few paintings would be returned.

CHONIS said he had received a six-page letter from Nuis in which the official noted that, in the case of the Goering transaction, "Mrs. Goudstikker deliberately and consciously refrained from seeking recovery of the art" to avoid returning money that Goering paid for the 779 paintings he selected from among the 1,200 works in the collection.

In the letter, Nuis conceded that the amount paid by Goering might appear to be inadequate by today's standards, but the "deliberate character" of Mrs. Goudstikker's decision after the war "cannot be changed by those circumstances now." In his news conference, Nuis added: "In my judgment, the redress was carefully handled, according to present standards, immediately

Revelations of Asia in a Wonderland Fair

By Souren Melikian

EW YORK — They will wonder in 20 or 30 years how such a commercial outpouring of super-museum-level art as can be seen at the Asian Art Fair was ever possible.

Walking from one extraordinary object to

another in the Seventh Regiment Armory, where the fair is being held until Wednesday, and through some of the selling shows put up in town by individual dealers, one cannot help feeling ambivalent about it all. Should one marvel at the revelations that add new facets to the endlessly unfolding wealth of early Chinese art? Or should one mourn the irreparable loss of historical documentation that commercial excavations without a recorded context effectively represent -- to say

nothing of the damage to the art?
The dilemma is real: There is a lot to be said in favor of private collecting. Free from museum pomp, these works have an immediacy that is overwhelming. A huge gray earthenware buil, 108 centimeters long, displayed on Joel and Edith Frankel's stand, will job the most stolid visitors out of their indifference. It was discovered in Sichuan in a context that establishes its Eastern Han period (A.D. 26-220), the dealers say. As sharp as a stone carving, it sheds new light on the level of artistic achievement attained in that province at a time when it was on the edges of the Chinese world. One would dearly love to know the name of the high dignitary in whose funerary chamber the bull stood, probably with several more.

Elsewhere, at 41 East 57th Street in a show illustrating the "Arts of the Han Dynasty" (until April 11), James J. Lally displays sculptures that bear out the striking originality of Sichuan. A gray earthenware buffoon, hump-backed and potbellied, his face distorted by a sneering snarl, stands tambourine in hand, ready to jump into action. This is an age-old character common to the Far East and the Middle East — the solo entertainer who recites poems, sings and dances to the accompaniment of the tambourine and, in between, delights the audience with jokes and antics. The arched eyebrows, the slender nose, the Sogdian cap with a cusp, establish the East Iranian identity of the character. Priced at a mere \$12,000, it was the first piece to laugh its way out of J. J. Lally & Co.

Explosive energy and joie de vivre seem to have been dominant traits in Sichuan culture. A gray earthenware prancing horse sold by Lally for \$320,000 gets as close to roaring with laughter as a horse ever did, wiggling its also entertained a strain of surrealism as bold as thick tail with delight, and the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same irrepressible vitality emanates from a set of three probably dating from the second century B.C. the same i



Sichuan gray earthenware prancing horse from the Han Dynasty.

April 4. It is so close to linear abstraction that

one must take time to make out the bird figure.

Only the claw is instantly identifiable. A single

leg rises from it topped by a gently in-curving

rodlike body. The creature has no head. Instead, its body carries a thick ring with vertical

spikes. No other object of this type is known.

oird flew off minutes before the opening.

measured by novelty alone. In art, beauty

should be the ultimate criterion. The eques-

Again, the loss of the context is a disaster, for

musicians seated cross-legged, with a laugh is on view at Eskenazi, 28 East 78th Street, until on their faces. Rarely did figures for the dead April 4. It is so close to linear abstraction that convey such mirth.

Humor was more complex in the higher forms of art, and more ambiguous as well. A cast silver warrior serves as a stand to a footed oil lamp, amusingly stuck on his head and holding his arms extended as if to keep his balance. His expression is inscrutable even though he beams. Only one other Han silver lamp has been recorded. This, too, is a major addition to early Chinese sculpture.

NOTHER astounding discovery from the Han period proves that at the very moment when China cultivated this serenely figural art, it at the Tang court. The head, slightly averted as if on the lookout for danger, the narrow slit eyes that give a piercing look, make up an admirable three-dimensional portrait. Whoever got this masterpiece of Tang art for \$165,000 did well.

Yet, even that is outshone by some pieces at the Asian Fair by Gisele Croes of Brussels. While a few bronze trees from the Han period were already known, none of them comes anywhere near the Croes piece for size, com-plexity and dizzying beauty. Perched on a stylized circular mountain, the trunk shoots straight up, with its swirling boughs making up a pyramidal form. Birds and monkeys appear here and there. The boughs carry tiny cupulae meant to hold the oil of so many miniature lamps. The unique object, worth about \$2 million, was bought by a New York collector just before the opening. Together with a \$1.5 million food bowl of the ding type inlaid with silver roundels more beautiful than any seen in the West, the New Yorker got, as

usual, the greatest.

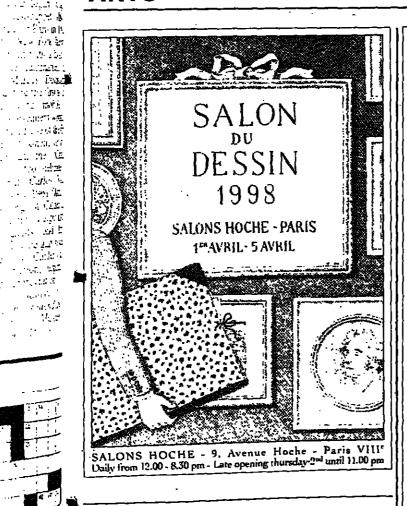
It is not just buried art hauled out of its underground caches that reserves surprises.

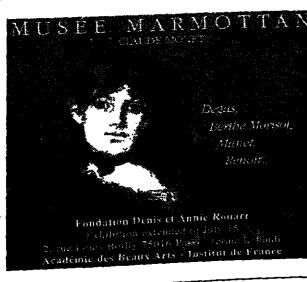
Jules Speelman of London spent several years bringing together three cloisonné enamel ves-sels of the early 15th century made for ritual use in a Lamaist temple, possibly as part of a single set. The 22-karat gold used for the mounts points to some court atelier in Beijing. They are among the gems of the Asian Fair.

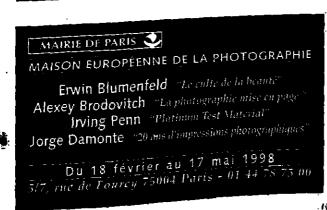
PEELMAN bettered this masterstroke with another coup — a Song period rock-crystal vessel, or part vessel, carved with dragons in high relief that was made into a ewer in 17th-century Tibet by adding crystal elements and mounting it in gilt copper. It is a unique Tibetan equivalent of the Renaissance man's Kunstkammer objet d'art. One would marvel unreservedly if this vessel, which must have come straight out of some temple, did not speak of the destruction and plunder to which Tibet has been subjected over the last three decades. As a further reminder of this havor one can admire on the stand of The Chinese Porcelain Company at the Asian Fair some debris of the high-relief gilt-copper sculpture that once adorned the Densatil shrine. The 15th-century monument, blown up by the Red Guards, now survives only in memory through photographs taken decades ago.

the object gives a new dimension to the emerg-ing art of the Han round 200 B.C. The \$120,000 To this, one may add the mutilated Khmer The importance of discoveries must not be sculptures of Cambodia, the remains of destroyed Buddhist stupas and cave shrines in Afghanistan, and a host of other escapees from the wreckage of world art. "Ambi-valent" is decidedly the mood in which art. trian figure of a horseman in polychrome pottery at Eskenazi rates among the most lovers take their leave from these witnesses to

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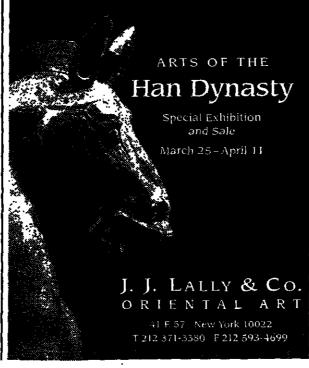
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OSHINGTON - As the Door industrial average closes in on points, Wall Street investors unare placing bets that the bealthy

advin gars of the past two years therepeated this year and perhaps in The investors, of course, are and a sine of about in Sec. spone servery, not growth m-

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In Europe, **Defense Firms** Miss Deadline For a Merger

PARIS -- Europe's three biggest aerospace-defense companies on Friday affirmed their intention to merge into a more formidable competitor to U.S. rivals, but they failed to agree on a timetable or specifics of an eventual deal.

Responding to a virtual order from their governments to agree on a plan by the end of March, British Aerospace PLC, Aerospatiale of France, Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG and Construcciones Aeronauticas SA of Spain said they wanted to merge but had not found a mutually agreeable solution.

For years, the defense and aerospace companies of Europe have talked about merging and streamlining but have nev-er figured out how to do it while accommodating the vein or nauconant terest that runs through most of them.
"The statements available to be put commodating the vein of national in-

SECUS BISHES The statements available to be publicly digested are about what you'd expect: nothing," said Sandy Morris, an analyst with ABN-AMRO Holding NV. "Everyone is really still working on their own agenda, the one that suits their national interest.

The French, for instance, remain reluctant to give up control of Aerospatiale, which controls 37.9 percent of Airbus Industrie, Boeing Co.'s main rival in the passenger aircraft industry.

Asked what the three top obstacles to the restructuring of the European defense industry were, Mr. Morris said: "The French, the French and the French." Eventually, he speculated, French refusal to restructure and combine could drive British Aerospace into an alliance with Lockheed Martin Corp., "and that would be it for Europe," he said. In December, Europe's political lead-

ers became so nervous about the prospect of U.S. defense giants' crushing their European rivals that they virtually ordered the industry to consolidate.

European executives have said much and done little about consolidating their industry, while watching the U.S. aerospace and defense industry get into fighting trim by winnowing itself down through mergers and acquisitions to es-Real Estate sentially three major companies: Boeing, Lockheed Martin and Raytheon

Among the Chaebol, a Battle of Titans

Stakes in Kia Fight: Corporate Survival

By Don Kirk

SEOUL — A growing battle be-tween South Korea's two largest business groups for a rival motor vehicle company has set the stage for struggles over the remains of bankrupt enterprises caught in the country's economic crunch.

For many of the country's huge but financially frail conglomerates, or chaebol, this mating dance to capture weaker partners in coming months will become, simply, a matter of life and

The Hyundai and Samsung groups, ranked first and second in South Korea, are fighting to gain control of Kia Motor Co., flagship of a second-tier group that faces the immediate need to renegotiate \$10 billion in debts under court order.

For Samsung, the contest may de-cide whether Samsung Motor Co., Korea's latest entry in the industry, can make it in an overcrowded field.

For Hyundai, victory would mean that Hyundai Motor Co. can not only recover the losses incurred in the current economic crisis but also fulfill its dream of emerging as one of the world's top 10 motor vehicle makers.

"Without taking over Kia Motors, Samsung Motors will not survive," said Lim Dong Su, an analyst with Jardine Fleming. "That's why they are so desperate to take it over."

This desperation captures the mood of all of Korea's chaebol as they try to shed money-losing entities, negotiate for mergers and pursue such foreign investors as Ford Motor Co.

Negotiations this past week between Ford and both Samsung and Kia may portend a merger of Samsung and Kia, with investment from Ford. That would pose a serious threat to Hyundai as well as Daewoo Motor Co., Korea's second-largest vehicle maker.

As for Daewoo, it was maneuvering to attract a major investment from GM, saying it could accept the world's largest motor vehicle company taking a stake as high as 50 percent.

On a larger scale, moreover, ana-



Hundreds of South Korean union members demonstrating Friday in Seoul to protest the increasing number of layoffs in the country.

slimming down bloated industrial \$60 billion. fields, bringing in foreign expertise as well as capital and, in the long run,

turing, numerous mergers and acquisitions, foreign investment and a lot of
layoffs." But he sees Korea "restabilreflected throughout Korean business izing its economy and returning to and industry. more attractive growth." It's at that point, he believes, that "we'll see an to a captive domestic market," it says. increasingly world-class manufacturand a lot of employment."

the scrap over Kia, whose executives say publicly that they are determined to stave off all attempts at a takeover, may indicate quite a different scenario one in which the chaebol spend so much time, energy and badly needed resources in fighting each other that they lose sight of the basic revisions needed for economic recovery.

McKinsey released a report Friday that attacked the Korean performance in a wide range of industrial sectors.

Motor vehicle makers appear obcracies, closed markets and poor qualthe entry of scores of other foreign to go to the International Monetary more than one task.

investors with key roles to play in Fund for a rescue package of nearly

Although Korea now ranks as the reviving and restructuring the entire vehicles, the report said, "Korea lags significantly behind industry benchworld's fifth-largest maker of motor

That process is likely to go on for four or five years, said Robert Felton, manager of the Seoul office of McKinsey & Co., a consulting firm that advises many of Korea's chaebol.

Mr. Felton predicts "basic restructions of manufacturing and basic principles of manufacturing and man

"These issues are a natural response increasingly world-class manufactur-ing sector, an expanding service sector country "no longer has the luxury of being shielded from the world's best The question, however, is whether practices," called on motor vehicle makers to stop rewarding managers for producing more cars rather than maximizing profits."

That's a lesson that all Korean motor vehicle makers seem to overlook as they talk of the need to consolidate companies to increase volume. For Hyundai, the ultimate dream is to make 2.5 million vehicles, the total capacity

Motor vehicle makers appear obincluding motor vehicles. Fat bureau- livious to the report's criticism of labor practices in which Korean labor unions ity were cited as some of the major fight against not only layoffs but also cases for economic crisis that finally reduced working hours and refuse to lysts believe that such talks portend forced the government last November agree on plans for workers to perform

Bundesbank Approves Euro as 'Justifiable'

By John Schmid ional Herald Tribune

FRANKFURT — After years of voicing doubts about Europe's planned single currency, the Bundesbank said Friday that the project should be allowed to proceed.

The green light from the central bank allowed Germany's political establish-ment to endorse the full list of 11 European Union countries deemed eligible to join the new single currency, the euro.

But even as it judged the inauguration of the common currency in 1999 "justifiable," the Bundesbank also used its 35-page report to assail high debt levels in Italy and Belgium, which both rank among the 11 founding nations.

Italy and Belgium, which have debt levels twice as high as the EU's benchmarks for monetary union, pose "se-rious concerns" for the success of the project, the Bundesbank concluded. It noted "significant doubts" over whether the two countries have taken sufficient measures to reduce debt convincingly enough.

But the carefully phrased report

ducked any judgment that would dis-qualify either candidate, conceding in the final sentence that "the selection of participants ultimately remains a polit-

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet unanimously backed the 11 candidates to form a vast new economic bloc stretching from the Mediterranean to Finland, acting Friday after it gained political cover from the Bundesbank and from similar reports this week from the European Monetary Institute and the

EU Commission in Brussels. The declaration from the Bundesbank, the guardian of Germany's postwar economic miracle, represents a political victory for Mr. Kohl, who has fought against the odds for years to overcome Germany's grassroots oppo-sition to abandoning the Deutsche

Despite its criticisms, the Bundesbank report also amounted to a victory for Italy — approval from Bonn was indispensable for Italy's inclusion in the euro. Opinion polls have shown that a

See EMU, Page 13

Record Jobless Rate in Japan

TOKYO — Japan's unemployment rate rose to a record 3.6 percent in February from 3.5 percent in January as economic ills took their toll in manufacturing and construction, the government said Friday.

The number of memployed reached 2.46 million, up 160,000 from a year earlier. It is the highest unemployment rate since Tokyo started compiling data in 1953. A large falloff in public works projects and depressed consumer sen-timent pushed up the number of workers who lost their jobs, an official said.

Also sounding an ominous note for the economy was a drop in the jobs-toapplicants ratio - seen by many economists as a better indication of future employment conditions. The figure fell to 0.61 in February, from 0.64 in January, meaning there were 61 job openings for every 100 job seekers. It was the

lowest level since January 1987.

government announced a 16 trillion yen (\$124.9 billion) spending package aimed at stimulating the economy. The package was roundly criticized because it did not contain tax cuts.

"Spending trillions on public works only makes Japan more dependent on public works," said Johsen Takahashi of Mitsubishi Research Institute Inc. "If the government repeats these spending packages indefinitely, the government's battle cry of fiscal reform will die to a

Also on Friday, Standard & Poor's Corp. cut the credit ratings of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd., the world's biggest bank, as well as the ratings of three other Japanese banks. Standard & Poor's said profits were getting squeezed by a singgish economy and billions of dollars in bad loans.

Asahi Bank Ltd., Daiwa Bank Ltd., and Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan Ltd. were the three others downgraded The bleak data came a day after the by S&P. (Reuters, AFP, Bloomberg)

ECONOMIC SCENE

By John M. Berry

Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — As the Dow

Firms Keep Wary Eye on Productivity

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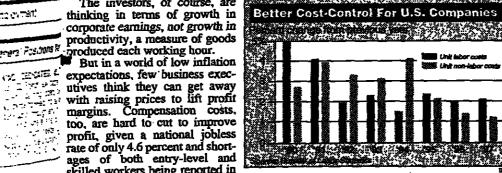
1999 as well. The investors, of course, are thinking in terms of growth in ≘ -- : T\$1" corporate earnings, not growth in productivity, a measure of goods produced each working hour. الأفاللائدة وموجو

> utives think they can get away with raising prices to lift profit margins. Compensation costs. too, are hard to cut to improve profit, given a national jobless rate of only 4.6 percent and shortages of both entry-level and skilled workers being reported in many parts of the country. Keeping up productivity growth,

then, is particularly important to the bottom line of companies. Any faltering in productivity growth could easily touch off a vicious cycle: A faster inusto smaller profit margins. That could usher in more inflation as companies raise prices to maintain profits. under control. And rising interest rates would likely take some wind out of the sails of the stock market.

the nonfarm business sector of the economy. After much larger increases in 1990 and 1991, the annual increases have

ranged from a low of 1.4 percent in 1994 9,000 points, Wall Street investors implicitly are placing bets that the healthy to a high of 2.4 percent in 1995. In the productivity gains of the past two years latter year, productivity rose only 0.2 will be repeated this year and perhaps in percent, offsetting little of the 2.5 percent



increase in hourly compensation, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. As labor markets tightened, hourly compensation jumped 3.8 percent in 1996 and stayed at that level last year. However, the higher pace of pay increases was more than offset by larger productivity gains, 1.9 percent in 1996 and 1.7 percent last year, so that the rise of unit labor costs was lower in each of the past two years than in 1995.

The annual change in unit nonlabor costs has been another factor that has helped to swell profits and bolster stock

There has been remarkable stability of prices. For the past three years, the rate clude depreciation, interest payments, rents and indirect taxes - has slowed. Unit nonlabor costs represent about one-third of total business costs,

The result has been smaller annual increases in total unit costs for nonfarm businesses. They rose 2.3 percent in

both 1994 and 1995, 1.7 percent in 1996 and 1.8 percent last year. Much of that trend is attributable to intense management focus on keeping costs low.

The wild card in this rosy setting is, again, productivity gains. If they drop off, unit labor costs could rise more rapidly, squeezing profit margins and corporate earnings. If this threatened more inflation, the Fed could raise interest rates, as it did in 1994.

Higher rates could, in turn, cause nonlabor costs to rise more rapidly, too. That could further squeeze earnings and make some investors wish they had placed a different bet.

Joseph Liro, an analyst at Stone & McCarthy, a research firm, raised this possibility this week when he told his firm's clients, "The equity market's surge to new highs over the past six weeks is clear evidence that it has already discounted a pronounced earnings slowdown in the first quarter and is looking for a strong earnings revival in the quarters ahead. Such optimism is based, in part, on belief that the recent

See COSTS, Page 12

March 27

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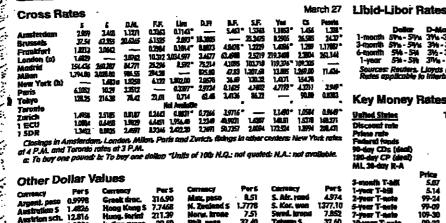
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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

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Very briefly:

• Mexico's president, Ernesto Zedillo, moving to shore up the financial system, asked Congress to allow foreign investors to buy controlling interests in Mexican banks. Foreigners are limited to holding minority stakes in the nation's three largest banking companies: Grupo Financiero Banamex-Accival SA, Grupo Financiero Bancomer SA and Grupo Financiero Serfin SA.

• Adobe Systems Inc.'s shares dropped \$2.50, to \$45.50, after the company said that first-quarter earnings fell 50 percent, to \$22.9 million, because of weak sales in Asia and North America and declining sales of Macintosh products.

• Unisys Corp. and Lockheed Martin Corp. will pay the federal government \$3.15 million for selling the Commerce Department spare parts for a weather radar system at inflated prices, the Justice Department said.

• Delta Air Lines Inc. will buy two more 777-200 jetliners from Boeing Co., in addition to the 10 jets it has on order.

• Sun Co. agreed to acquire a Philadelphia phenol plant from AlliedSignal Inc. for \$185 million to expand its production of chemicals used for making nylon, plywood and plastics.

• A. G. Edwards Inc., a regional brokerage, said its fourthquarter profit rose 23 percent, to \$73.1 million, driven by a surge in investment banking.

More Cash Fills Americans' Pockets The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans' personal income increased by a strong 0.6 percent in February for the second consecutive month, putting cash in consumers' pockets that should help the economy withstand the Asian financial crisis, data released Friday showed.

Seasonally adjusted to an annual \$7.14 trillion, the gain outpaced the healthy 0.4 percent advance in consumer spending, to an annual \$5.66 trillion, the Commerce Department said.

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Friday's 4 P.M. Close

The 300 most traded stocks of the day,

up to the closing on Wall Street.

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For Japan Banks **Help Dollar Rise**

Market News

NEW YORK - The dollar rose against the yen Friday as Japanese bank troubles deepened.

Standard & Poor's downgraded Asahi Bank's credit rating, following similar overnight downgrades on Daiwa and Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubisbi

The downgrades dampened enthusiasm over rumors that Tokyo would eventually give into demands for tax cuts to bolster the economy.

Traders said lingering fears of intervention by the Bank of Japan to dampen the dollar's rise restrained

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

an all-out assault on the yen before Japan's fiscal year ends Tuesday. In 4 P.M. trading, the dollar rose to 130.320 year from 128.275 year Thursday.

The dollar rose against European currencies after a report on the single currency from the Bundesbank contained no surprises.

The German central bank's report cited "significant doubts" over whether Italy and Belgium had taken sufficient measures to reduce debt convincingly, but it said that the starting lineup for the euro was a political decision 'It may be that the Bundesbank

clines in demand for its high-end wants to do some finger-pointing now in case EMU runs into trouble later," said John Hazelton, a dealer at Manufacturers & Traders Bank. The dollar rose to 1.8258

Deutsche marks from 1.8191 DM Thursday. It also rose to 6.1220 French francs from 6.0974 francs, and to 1.4965 Swiss francs from 1.4861 francs. The pound fell to \$1.6830 from \$1.6870.

Debt Downgrades Rate Jitters Add to Wall Street's Worries

Compiled by Our Staff From Disposches

NEW YORK — Stocks fell Friday as talk that U.S. interest rates may be headed higher added to investors' jitters about whether corporate profits would justify high share prices.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 50.81 points lower at 8,796.08, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index finished down 5.36 at 1,095.44. Losing issues outnumbered paining ones by a 4-to-3 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

"It's caution. April was a pretty rough month last year, and we are probably in for the same again this year," said Charles Payne of Wall Street Strategies. "The whispers are

policy-making Open Market Committee will meet Tuesday, and few analysts expect a rate change then. But several economists, analysts point at 102 13/32. and traders are predicting the Fed is

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California ing

- Silicon Graphics Inc. on Friday

forecast a "significant" loss and

lower sales for its third quarter as the

computer maker struggles with de-

The company, known for high-powered "workstation" computers that are used mainly by engineers

and in the movie industry, said it

would unveil a new strategy in a few

weeks aimed at renewed growth. Silicon Graphics earned \$10.5 mil-

lion in quarter a year ago.

computers.

them in the months ahead. "There is worry about the Fed going to a tightening bias," said Tom O'Connell, trader at First Chicago Capital Markets.

Benchmark 30-year bond yields fell as low as 5.66 percent in January prices.

U.S. STOCKS

- the lowest since the government began regular sales of the bonds in 1977 — amid optimism Asia's slumping economies would drag on U.S. growth, prompting a rate cut as early as this year.

But there have been only scattered signs that the U.S. economy is losing there is going to be a rate hike soon." signs that the U.S. economy is losing The Federal Reserve Board's any steam. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond was yielding 5.95 percent Friday, down from 5.96 percent Thursday. The price closed up 10/32 puter maker this year.

"Once the impact from Asia

Silicon Graphics to Post 'Significant' Loss

after a string of disappointing earn-

to \$700 million

earnings April 21.

Silicon Graphics has undergone a Hewlett-Packard Co., as chief ex- tems Inc. and others.

The company said it expected

Analysts had expected the com-

pany to break even for the three

months ending Tuesday. Silicon

The bleak forecast comes as Sil-

Graphics will release its quarterly

icon Graphics grapples with falling prices and stiff competition from

rivals with cheaper machines. The

January appointment of Richard

Belluzzo, a former executive with

third-quarter sales to fall 23 percent, on Friday, Silicon Graphics shares

Salomon Smith Barney.

But overall strong economic fundamentals were not enough to offset investors' concerns that corporate

"It's just a case of the market have to have earnings to justify the move," said Chad Fleischman, a money manager at Columbia Management Co.

Technology stocks were rattled pany's financial performance. by a profit warning from Silicon
Graphics. The Nasdaq composite

Transcrypt International fell 6 7/2

16 to 9 15/16 after the maker of index closed down 4.89 points at

1.823.65. Sun Microsystems fell 1½ to 41½ nounced financial results. amid concern slowing sales in Japan will hurt profit growth for the com- 3 15/16 to 21 15/16 after the outdoor

In Focus Systems fell 4% to 91/2 after the maker of personal-com-

toward diversifying its products and returning to profitability. On the New York Stock Exchange

fell 25 cents, to close at \$13.875.

Silicon Graphics is looking to Mr. Belluzzo — nicknamed "Rocket

Rick" for his rapid rise at Hewlett-

Packard - to help it compete with

less expensive machines that run

software from Microsoft Corp. and

use chips from Intel Corp. The so-called "Wintel" machines have

been taking market share from tra-ditional Unix machines made by

Silicon Graphics, Sun Microsys-

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

more likely to raise rates than lower them in the months ahead.

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FPA Medical Management fell 1% to 16% after the physician-practice results will not justify lofty stock management company said it named Stephen Dresnick, now vice chairman, as chief executive after Seth: having moved quite a ways, and we Flam resigned to pursue other interests. Dresnick said he would slow, the company's expansion through acquisitions, which has made it tough for investors to evaluate the com?

> Transcrypt International fell 6 7/ security products said it was making adjustments to its previously an-

apparel company sold 5.6 million shares in an initial public offering. (Bloomberg, Reuters, AP)

Murdoch Deal

By Paul Farhi Washington Post Service

WASINGTON - U.S. gov-

After almost eight months of investigation, the Justice Department is preparing to challenge a plan by Mr. Murdoch's News Corp. and MCI Comminications Corp. to merge their U.S. satellite TV operations with Primestar Partners, the second-largest satellite TV company in the United States, sources familiar with the in-

quiry say.
The department's telecommunications staff will recommend soon that the merger be blocked or substantially modified, the sources said.

Although such a recommen-

Primestar is partly owned by four large cable TV companies, and Justice officials are worried that Primestar will use the powerful Murdoch-MCI satellite operations to harm competing satellite TV companies and preserve the cable in-

Faces Challenge

emment antitrust officials are taking aim at Rupert Murdoch's latest high-flying venture.

dation does not guarantee that the government will sue to stop Murdoch-MCI and Primestar, it reflects deep-seated concerns by staff experts about the pending \$1.1 billion deal.

in institute strict budget measthat will swing their annual Zei is into surpluses, thus leading bill and reduction in debt. thout citing any specific mes- on laly's prime minister. Ro-2 Prodi quickly responded buy :Rome with a pledge to cut Rol dustry's market dominance.

COSTS: With Low Inflation, Productivity Growth Is Key to Higher Earnings new highs," Mr. Liro said. "To us, that the economy has indeed shifted that this capital spending has con-

restructuring in the past six months ecutive was touted as a major step

Continued from Page 11

strong gains in productivity can be sustained over the next two years." Mr. Liro said there was an expectation that first-quarter earnings of the companies comprising the Standard & Poor's 500 stock index would be up only 2.3 percent from the same quarter in the previous year. But the year-on-year gains are expected to increase steadily until they reach

continue at about that pace in 1999.
"If the consensus forecast for earnings growth is anywhere close

15 percent in the fourth quarter and

in nonfarm labor productivity to skeptical," he said. achieve such an optimistic earnings growth path."

In fact, Mr. Liro said, it would take productivity growth of 2 per-cent or better for this year and next ductivity gains may not continue. On for that to happen. And he cautioned, "It would be the possibility that they will.

truly extraordinary for productivity growth to continue at a 2 percent or labor markets has imparted a subbetter rate this late in a long-lived economic expansion in which the pool of skilled and experienced workers is about exhausted.'

it will take continued stellar growth to a new era. On this, we remain tributed to a noticeable pickup in

Another skeptic is the Federal Reserve Board's chairman, Alan Greenspan, who has repeatedly warned that the other hand, he has not ruled out

"The threat of rising costs in tight unit business costs. With labor constantial impetus to efforts to take advantage of possible efficiencies" by investing in advanced technology, Mr. Greenspan told Congress a to prescient, then we are wrong to question the market's recent push to would provide powerful evidence remains consistent with the view

stituting more than two-thirds of those costs and labor compensation

productivity — and probably by

more than can be explained by usual

that "the combination of continued

low inflation and stable to rising do-

mestic profit margins implies quite

subdued growth in total consolidated

One piece of evidence, he said, is

business cycle forces.

per hour accelerating, productivity must be growing faster, and that step up must be roughly in line with the increase in compensation growth." In other words, so far so good.

U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

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SUGARWORLD 11 (MCSE) 112,000 Bs. - ceets per B. May 99 9.89 9.70 9 5ul 98 9.89 9.44 9 0ct 98 9.82 9.71 9 Marr 99 10.11 10.03 10 Est soles 15.450 Thus soles Thurs open int 172,108, off 1,

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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Thirs open int 2,743,908, up 65,144

BRITISH POUND (CMER)
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Sep 98 1,4750 1,6680 1,4690 -0,0050
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Continued from Page 11

majority of Germans distrust the new currency partly out of suspicion that Italian-bred inflation could in-

a fuch has made a court of the made and the court of the made and the The Bank of France's monetary council released a similar report Friday, also criticizing Italy and Belgium but offering overall support for e single-currency plan, Reuters reported from Paris.]

porvey to the previous distribution of the property of the previous distribution d The Bundesbank's report also disarmed one of Germany's most ardent critics of European integrain in initial public the mathery Reman tion: Edmund Stoiber, the popular Bavarian state premier who has led opposition to the euro for more than a year.

Conceding that the central bank's report had removed the last obstacle in Germany to the new currency's launch. Mr. Stoiber said that he was Faces Challen now satisfied because the Bundesbank judged that a 1999 start was ''justifiable.''

That is exactly what I wanted to hear, and I believe that, at least for my part, continued positive support out such an evaluation, out such an evaluation of Bonn's such as a such as

the Bundespans sistence of Mr. Stoiber. Europe's new currency zone now looks certain to encompass more than 300 million Europeans in the founding states: Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria Portugal and Finland. the Justice parties parties satelline

Speaking in Bonn, the Bundes-speaking in Bonn, the Bundes-bank president, Hans Tietmeyer, put bank president, name receives in the a harder edge on the criticism in the report, saying that he did not such the view of the EU Commission that the view of the Bo comments were all 11 prospective members were fiscally ready.

Belgian and Italian debt is double the ratio of 60 percent in relation to gross domestic product, Mr. Tiet-20. 200 suggest meyer pointed out after the cabinet

meeting.
The Bundesbank demanded commitments from both "binding" commitments from both Belgium and Italy to cut their debt before adopting the euro.

Specifically, it urged both coun-TV one tries to institute strict budget measures that will swing their annual will an deficits into surpluses, thus leading to a rapid reduction in debt. Without ching any specific mea-

sures, Italy's prime minister, Romano Prodi, quickly responded "- is demants from Rome with a pledge to cut



Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank president, second from right, at a cabinet meeting on Friday.

U.K. Extends Deadline on 'Chunnel' Link

Minister John Prescott gave the group building a high-speed rail link between London and the Channel Tunnel another two months to refinance the project.

will now have until May 29 to

link may be built in two phases to LONDON - Deputy Prime ease funding problems, Mr. Prescott said proposals so far from private-sector companies involved scheduled to open in 2003. in the project are still asking for too London & Continental won the

much extra funding. onths to refinance the project.

Mr. Prescott said the group, January because Mr. Prescott re-London & Continental Railways, fused a request for an extra £1.2 billion of subsidy.

secure the funding it needs after Mr. Prescott's written parliamaking "material progress" in mentary statement said propos-finding a way to finance the project als from London & Continental, with Railtrack Group PLC, the the project leader of the conowner of Britain's rail network. sortium and Railtrack "do not Acknowledging the possibility yet meet the government's rethat the £5.4 billion (\$9.1 billion) quirements."

Reports have said the group's plan could delay the link's opening until at least 2008. It had been

concession to build the link and run Eurostar passenger train services through the Channel Tunnel in

The group consists of Bechtel Group Inc., based in San Francisco, Virgin Group Ltd., National Express PLC, SBC Warburg, London Electricity PLC and three smaller civil engineering and consulting firms - Systra, Arup and Halcrow. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

BMW Makes Offer for Rolls-Royce

MUNICH - Bayerische Motoren Werke AG said Friday it had bid for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd., vying with its rival Volkswagen AG for one of the world's most prestigious automobile brand names.

Both bidders have kept the value of their offers for the Vickers PLC unit a secret, but the daily Bild-Zeitung has put the bid by VW at 1.5 billion Deutsche marks (\$820.3 million). VW has declined to comment on the report.

Vickers is expected to choose a buyer in two weeks for the maker of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars.

sparred for weeks over their intention to court Rolls-Royce.

The head of BMW, Bernd Pischetsrieder, threatened to cease supplying engines to Rolls if BMW were the 5.4-liter, V-12 engines for Rolls's new Silver Seraph limousines.

The chairman of VW. Ferdinand Piech, countered that VW was developing a 12-cylinder engine that would fit Rolls-Royces. He also said that if VW's bid were unsuccessful it would launch two luxury models of its own.

But Vickers has reportedly drawn separate bids from a former Rover Group executive and from Doughty Hansen, a venture capitalist.

Rolls-Royce, facing increasing unable to take control. BMW makes competition from Japanese and German luxury carmakers, produced 1.918 cars in 1997, up 10 percent from 1996. Vickers put the company up for sale, saying it wanted to con-centrate on its defense business.

Both German automakers want to retool the company's factories to produce more cars each year. Mr. ister Anatoli Chuhais said last week. Pischetsrieder has said it could take

Power Shift Lifts Stocks In Moscow

MOSCOW - Russian stocks and bonds rose Friday after President Boris Yeltsin nominated Sergei Kir-iyenko, the former fuel and energy minister, as prime minister.

Mr. Kiriyenko, also a former president of Norsi Oil Co., is considered an advocate of market reforms. He was nominated with instructions to accelerate economic growth, increase government revenues and pay back wages.

The Russian Trading System 106share index rose almost 2 percent to end at 341.48. Debt prices also rose. Investors are optimistic that the government is at least committed to fostering economic growth. But analysts said Mr. Kiriyenko must now convince investors that Russia will cut spending, make its tax system simpler and more effective, and protect shareholders' rights.

"It has been quite well-established that reforms will continue by naming Kiriyenko," said Yves Kuhn at Picter Targeted Fund Eastern Europe. "As long as there are reformers in the government, I feel more comfortable, but at the end of the day what we want to see are actions.

Mr. Kiriyenko will replace Viktor Chernomyrdin, whose government was dismissed Monday by Mr. Yeltsin, who contended that it had lost momentum and failed to lift the economy's growth rate above 0.4

percent a year. Parliament must vote on Mr. Kiriyenko's nomination within a week. The president also signed into law a budget that lowers the deficit to 4.7

percent of gross domestic product from an estimated 7 percent last year, and represents Russia's most realistic spending plan since the fall of the Soviet Union, analysts said. The government is working toward eliminating all of the debts it

owes companies, including those incurred when ministries from defense to education got natural gas or elec-tricity they did not pay for. Those debts totaled 760 billion rubles (\$124.6 billion) at the end of last year, the former First Deputy Prime Min-

What is more, the amount of un-



Very briefly:

• Germany's 3.2 million public-service workers reached a settlement in salary talks, agreeing to 1.5 percent pay raises, but the pact still needs to be ratified. Unions said the prospective settlement had put off the threat of a strike. Further talks on salary begin Thursday.

· Guinness Mahon Holdings PLC, a British investment bank owned by Bank of Yokohama, is in exclusive sale talks with Investec Group Ltd. of South Africa.

• Mediobanca SpA plans to ask shareholders to approve the sale of 1.333 trillion lire (\$739.8 million) in new stock to finance its holdings in Assicurazioni Generali SpA and other companies and bolster its investment-banking business.

Information Inc. have raised their offers for Metromail Corp., a U.S. direct tnarketer, to more than \$900 million. • Gruner & Jahr AG, a German publisher owned by Ber-

• Great Universal Stores PLC and American Business

telsmann AG, has bought 75 percent of News GmbH & Co. an Austrian publisher, from Fellner Media AG and Axel Springer Verlag AG. • Lonrho PLC's shareholders have approved the British

conglomerate's plans to demerge its African nonmining businesses into a new company, Lonrho Africa PLC. • Monoprix SA, a French retailer controlled by Galeries Lafayette SA, said 1997 earnings rose 26 percent, to 80.7

million French francs (\$13.2 million), lifted by the acquisition of Prisunic SA in October. Russia moved to support its oil industry, hit by heavy losses as crude prices drop, by scrapping charges for the transit of oil

through Russian pipelines, the Itar-Tass news agency said. BASF AG said its sales growth in the Asia-Pacific region would probably slow to 10 percent this year - half its earlier forecast - as the Southeast Asian currency crisis weakened Bloomberg, Reusers, AFP

+ 0.62

+0.20

-1.67

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Prices as of 3.00 P.M. New York time.

+ 0.27

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year to date %change

+ 13.45

+1.84

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Daimler-Benz AG, which was an investment of \$1.6 billion to once attracted to Rolls, has said several times that it is no longer a suitor.

The solution of \$1.6 billion to paid wages owed by government of \$1.6 billion to 6,000 organizations rose 21 percent in cral times that it is no longer a suitor.

Cars a year.

(Bloomberg, AFP) February, to 7.6 billion rubles. The two German companies had eral times that it is no longer a suitor. cars a year. WORLD STOCK MARKETS The Trib Index 9.43 9.50 9.54 5.86 5.93 5.97 5.08 5.13 5.14 1.55 1.49 3.65 5.40 5.77 5.88 8.10 8.18 8.18 8.60 8.84 4.98 5.27 6.01 10.95 4.46 4.40 4.63 4.40 4.63 4.63 1.70 1.75 1.40 1.41 2.476 2.4.23 2.90 43 42.78 345 349 345 374 389 382.59 244 247 241.59 261 288.59 277 745 470 446 446 447 448 134 134 134 407 445 407 455 377 63 63.59 63 Utd O'Sed Bk F Wing Toi Holgs 9.50 9 9.50 9 1.20 1.48 1.49 1.48 Jan. 1, 1992 = 100 S .0 28.3 Friday, March 27 High Low Case Free.

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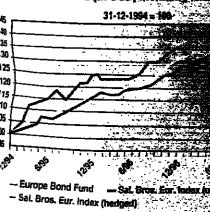
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Per 31 December, 1997
THE FUND MANAGEMENT COMPANIES
AMRO LUXEMBOURG INVESTMENT 34465
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for more information, fex Dion F. Mum (Bahamas) at 1-242-394-3264 ct ^{'6b} site at *Www.magnumi(und col*

Continued on Page 16

Jeylan J.b.

Intellectual Piracy in China: 'Far From Dead'

By Steven Mufson Vushington Post Service

BEIJING - Pirated copies of Chemical Abstracts magazine are not the kind of things that are hawked on street corners. That's why its publishers think it is a good litmus test of China's commitment to stopping the theft of intellectual

The thick weekly compendium of chemical research is a apportant chemical research is a sindard on library shelves of major universities, chemical research instimues and petrochemical industry - which in China are all run by the central government. Yet the American publisher of the journal says there are only nine subscriptions in all of China, a country with 1.3 million scientists, dozens of major universities and research institutions, several big chemical companies and many major municipal libraries.

Disney tapes in a back alley where which has doubled its anti-piracy

By Philip Segal

International Herald Tribung

HONG KONG - A special ad-

viser to President Suharto of In-

donesia said Friday that a rigidly

fixed exchange rate for the rupiah

the country's finance minister ap-

out," Steve Hanke, a professor at

Johns Hopkins University in Bal-

timore, said on the sidelines of an

had dropped the idea of a currency

board, which had been sternly op-

posed by the International Monetary

pean Union, But Mr. Suharto has not

An about-face by Indonesia in

favor of a currency board could rock

financial markets in the country and

and currency have rallied this week

On Friday, optimism about an

with the IMF were going well.

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addressed the topic since then.

Fund, the United States and the Euro- currivent the problem.

beyond. Indonesia's stock market rency the government could print

on the perception that negotiations foreign exchange on hand. With the

IMF agreement helped the Jakarta Mr. Hanke said, "The good money

Stock Exchange composite index would chase out the bad."

On Wednesday, Finance Minister

investment conference here.

"As far as I know it's not ruled

peared to rule out such an option.

the government is not enforcing the laws." said Bart Fisher, a lawyer representing the American Chemical Society, which has been ne-gotiating with the Chinese government for two years. "This is where

the government is the actor."

Nearly two years after a lastminute agreement between China and the United States averted a trade war over violations of intellectual property rights, the piracy of in-tellectual property is still an issue. Despite the 1996 accord, the value of pirated goods in China grew to about \$2.8 billion in 1997 from about \$2.3 billion in 1996, according to the International Intellectual Property Alliance. As the U.S. trade deficit with China and Asia in general rises this year, the intellectual property issue could become contentious again.

Piracy of intellectual property in China is "far from dead and gone," said Tom Robertson, a Hong Kong-"This isn't a guy knocking off based lawyer for Microsoft Corp.,

Is Jakarta Currency Board Alive?

rise for a third straight day. The

index gained 9.3 points, to 542.10,

an eight-week high. The rupiah also

strengthened; the dollar slipped to

While the finance minister's

In theory, a currency board bol-

sters confidence in a currency be-

cause of a government promise not

to print any more money unless it is

backed and exchangeable for a set

amount of U.S. dollars or another

hard currency. Critics argue that In-

Fuad Bawazier said the government donesia does not have enough for- dismissed the currency board plan

eign-currency reserves to do this,

but on Friday Mr. Hanke came up

with a method he says would cir-

He proposed that Indonesia stop

printing rupiah and issue a new cur-

rency. The new currency would be

pegged at a fixed rate to the U.S

dollar; how much of the new cur-

would be limited by the amount of

two currencies floating against each

other and circulating side-by-side.

opinion carries some sway, Mr. ising smooth sailing in the event

8,525 rupiah from 8,550.

was still a possibility, two days after Hanke said, "At the end of the day, Indonesia adopts his plan.

it's the president who decides."

staff in Asia. And yet the software, Chinese authorities say they have Representative to seek trade sanctions on China.

Citing China's attempts to crack down on manufacturers of bootleg compact disks, some heavy sentences for importers of pirated videodisks and the first raid on an end user of pirated business software, industry groups instead asked that China remain in its current status under close scrutiny and monitor-

China's biggest success has been in trimming the extent of piracy of music compact disks. It has reduced the production of pirated music CDs in U.S. theaters. to an estimated value of \$150 million, down 15 percent from 1996, although other forms of bootleg production are booming. While the bulk of the domestic market remains pirated, China has mostly halted the

export of illegal disks. Since the agreement in May 1996,

Those pushing for a currency board argue that the main thing ail-

ing Indonesia at the moment is in-

stability. With a currency board

Hanke, although he is hardly prom-

'you'd get stability fast," said Mr.

Because the effects of Indone

sia's massive growth in credit and

its huge currency devaluation have

yet to be fully passed through the

economy, he predicted plenty of in-

flation for Indonesia "no matter what they decide to do."

as unworkable, not on technical

grounds but because markets do not

kids are going to lose billions of

dollars, your friends will go bank-

rupt and your banks will go un-der," the fund manager said.

The idea that restoring confidence

in Indonesia depends principally on

Mr. Suharto was echoed by Richard

Holbrooke, a former U.S. assistant

secretary of state for East Asian af-

fairs and now an executive with

Credit Suisse First Boston.

with the pegged exchange rate.

elieve Mr. Suharto would stick

"Nobody's telling Suharto 'Your

One fund manager in Hong Kong

publishing, movie and recording in-dustries last month decided against asking the Office of the U.S. Trade and videodisks from 33 factories, mostly in the southern province of Guangdong, China also has instituted a reward system that pays up to \$36,000 for information leading to the seizure of bootleg CD lines.

As a result of the crackdown, however, CD pirates have simply moved to Hong Kong and Macau. Industry officials say the number of CD and CD-ROM manufacturing facilities went from zero to more than 100 in two years in Macau. In Singapore, videodisk versions of 'Titanic' ' were available less than two weeks after the movie's release

As a result, China's anti-piracy efforts for CDs have shifted from raiding production plants to fighting importers and smugglers. Raids in Guangdong have netted several intermediaries. In December, three men were given prison sentences of 12 years to life for smuggling.

IMF Backs Plan On Indonesia Debt

JAKARTA - The International Monetary Fund on Friday backed an Indonesian formula that would enable the country to tackle its mountain of private debt, an issue seen as critical to the nation's economic recovery.

The IMF said an Indonesian proposal to solve the \$74 billion private-sector debt problem by using a model adopted by Mexico in the early 1980s had merit, although it had to be approved by foreign creditors.

Few details of the debt formula emerged after a meeting between the sides on Friday, but Hubert Neiss, the leader of the IMF delegation, said it was based on Mexico's program.

Indonesia also said it would prepare a draft bankruptcy law by next month, seen as key to reviving investor confidence.

What many countries in Asia are suffering from "is not an economic crisis. It's a political crisis," he said, adding that the volatility of the rupiah is due to the "underlying political structure" of Indonesia.

Seoul to Lift Barriers to **North Korea**

SEOUL - In a shift aimed at luring North Korea toward peace, South Korea said Friday that it would soon lift virtually all restrictions on investment in the communist country.

Beginning next month, South Korea will allow its businesses to invest freely in the North except in defense and other strategic heavy industries.

Until now, the South has allowed ecemeal investment in the North. Business executives have had to go wade through lengthy government red tape to get permission to discuss a deal in the North. Even those negotiations have often been suspended at the slightest sign of political tension.

"From now on, we will separate politics from business when we deal with the North," Unification Minister Kang In Duk said.

Mr. Kang is the top government official in charge of Seoul's policy toward the North. He declined to elaborate on the new policy, but ministry officials said the new government of President Kim Dae Jung would actively push for economic and other civilian contacts with the

Mr. Kim is the first opposition leader to be elected president in South Korean history. He took office in February with a pledge to pursue a thaw with North Korea, with which South Korea is technically in a state of war.

Officials said the government among other things, would lift the \$5 million ceiling on investment in North Korea and permit the heads of major conglomerates to visit the North freely to explore investment opportunities.

South Korean investment in the reclusive North is limited to so-called processing-on-consignment ects, under which the South sends materials and equipment for assembly and finishing in the North.

Nearly all major South Korean business groups have ambitious investment plans for the North. Also Friday, Lim Dong Won,

President Kim's national security adviser, said Seoul was considering sending addresses of its separated families to the North to prepare for possible family reunions.



Very briefly:

• A former manager of Mitsubishi Electric Corp., Yoshiki Sugiura, 47, was sentenced to four months in prison by a Tokyo district court for handing 4.6 million yen (\$36,000) in hush money to a racketeer. In the city of Nagoya, a court sentenced Ryuga Haga, 68, to four months in prison for demanding 950,000 yen in payoffs from the department store chain Matsuzakaya Co. Both men received suspended sentences.

• Sakura Bank Ltd. is selling about 400 billion yen in bad loans to two U.S. firms. The bank did not name the buyers or the price, but the Nihon Keizai Shimbun said the loans were sold for 15 percent of book value. David Atkinson, managing director at Goldman Sachs (Japan) Ltd., said such announcements by Japanese banks "represent a minute fraction of the total amount of real estate, which these banks own."

• Japan's vehicle exports rose 14 percent in February from the same month in 1997, to 388,522 vehicles — the 21st consecutive rise, reflecting carmakers' efforts to compensate for a slumping domestic auto market.

· South Korean prosecutors arrested three men on charges of helping the French discount retailer Carrefour SA to illegally send 34.07 billion won (\$24.5 million) out of the country.

• Hong Kong banks are cutting their prime lending rate by 0.25 percentage point, to 10 percent, effective Monday. • India eased rules on foreign investment. Foreign equity

mutual funds can invest as much as 30 percent of their funds in Indian government bonds. Previously, they could only invest in corporate bonds or stocks. Foreign institutional investors will also be allowed to lend their Indian stocks to other

 Tan Chong Motor Holdings Bhd., a Malaysian company that assembles and sells Nissan Motor Co. cars, is cutting production by 70 percent this year and has fired 40 percent of its 900 assembly-line workers. AP, Bloombers

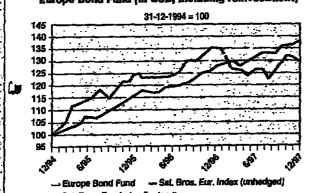
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The I.H.T. would like to remind its readers that past performance is no guarantee of future results and that the value of an investment and the income from it can go down as well as up.

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4.4 years 5.2%

USD 23.4 million 0.347 million

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- Date of inception Total net assets Shares outstanding Net asset value per share Modified duration
- Yield to redemotion (*) Per 31 December, 1997

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FOLIO 400 - designed for an above moderate risk level, Folio 400 aims to increase capital value with a primary emphasis on capital appreciation. CitiSelect comprises 18 sub-portfolios denominated in five major currencies: BEF, DEM, USD, GBP and ESP. For full details, please circle the appropriate number on the information coupon.

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Funds Rich, Var Opp. Cl. B November 1, 1996 Rich Var Opp Cl L ₹235% ianuary | 1997 Ruch Var Opp. Cl S Value of \$1 OID proposed on Parameter Values of Control

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tored by Richcourt Capital Management inc. the Fund's investment Manager

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The Fund is offering three separate

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- months through July, August, September, October and November 1997, as ranked by Lipper Analytical Services. the world's top-performing offshore global equity fund for the 12 months through April 4, 1997 as ranked by The Wall Street Journal Europe and Asia

Four Magnum Funds were listed in the October 27, 1997 issue of Barron's (U.S. financial weekly) among the top six funds of funds in the world managing at least \$20 million in assets, ranked by year-to-date return.

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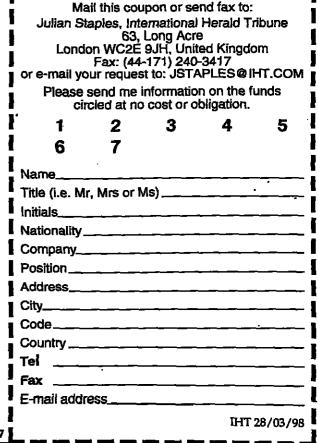
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global Diversification makes sense



At no other one in the past 20 years have there been so many opportunities as there are this time, i.e., Windows 95, video conferencing, voice recognition, ingernet, Networking, ATM, PCI



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NYSE

Friday's 4 P.M. Close (Continued)

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1546	1478	NumPP	2.90	5.9	q	221	16	1594
1546	1478	NumPP	1.03	6.1	q	157	1644	1646
1546	1478	NumPP	1.03	6.1	q	157	1644	1646
1649	1748	NumPP	1.03	6.1	q	157	1644	1646
1649	1748	NumPP	1.03	6.1	q	157	1649	1598
1649	1748	NumPP	1.03	6.1	q	157	1649	1598
1649	1748	NumPP	1.03	6.1	q	157	1649	1598
1649	1748	NumPP	1.03	6.1	q	157	1649	1598
1649	1748	NumPP	1.03	5.0	q	127	157	147
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Microchip Meisters Of Personal Finance

Intuit Still Holds Sway Over Microsoft

By Barbara Wall

E-mail address: moneyrep@iht.com

¶INANCES in a moddle? Unsure about your investment strategy? Dreading your tax returns? Well, Microsoft Corp. and Intuit Inc., the two leading computerized personal finance programs with over 12 million subscribers worldwide, claim to have the solution for all your on-line financial needs. The latest versions of their programs have new money management tools, more on-line banking connections and more embedded Internet browsers to help users get an insight into their finances.

Intuit set the standard for computerized personal finance managers with the launch of Quicken in 1984. Competitors have offered rival programs but none have come close. Quicken's main competitor is Microsoft's Money, which has less than 10 percent of the market. Computer Associates International Inc.'s Simply Money and Managing Your Money by Meca Software Inc. have an estimated percent of the market. Quicken has the remaining 90 percent of the personal finance software market.

Philip Albinus, a spokesman for New York-based Home Office Computing magazine, suggests that Quicken's position is unassailable. "Money's market share is growing slowly because of its extensive on-line banking connections and the fact that Microsoft is giving the software away free of charge in many instances, but Quicken is still easier to use and has more features than any other package around. Even after the trumpeted launch of Money 98, Microsoft is still

playing catch-up," he said.

Money 98 has had a complete makeover to a browser style with frames and one-click links. The design is promoted as being less fussy and more intuitive. Microsoft has also introduced an advanced version of the software program, called Money 98 Financial Suite-It has all the features of the basic product, such as on-line banking, financial planners and investment tracking tools, plus facilities to help users set financial goals, manage their investment portfolios and

A major addition to Money 98 is

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know where to invest your cash, a click on the mouse will give you access to the Microsoft Investor Website, where you can get market updates, business news and share prices. For those who are really serious about investing, an extra \$9.95 per month will give you access to an extensive database of stocks and mutual funds with performance statistics going

back several years. Microsoft has also reformatted the international editions of Money. The early French and British editions of software program were modeled on the U.S. version with minor modifications. The latest international versions have been designed specifically for their respective markets, which include France, Germany and Britain.

A Japanese version of Money is planned for later in the year. A spokesman for Microsoft in London said that product development of the new range has included input from local financial specialists.

Intuit has localized versions of Quicken for the French, British and German markets. Quicken is also available in Brazil, Canada, South Africa and Australia. An Intuit spokesman said localized products are being developed for the Netherlands, Israel and countries in Scandinavia.

Both Money and Quicken can track multi-currency accounts. With Quicken deluxe, however, you can

get currency-rate updates on-line. Money 98, which costs \$30 for the basic version and \$55 for the Financial Suite, has more new features than Quicken 98, but Microsoft had a lot of ground to make up.

"Money 98 presents a slightly better challenge to Quicken than earlier versions, but it is not going to knock Quicken from the top slot," said Mr. Albinus of Home Computing.
Intuit has added some new features

to its range of Quicken 98 products. The changes to the standard product, which retails at \$40, are designed to simplify navigation and enable users to methodically-organize—their finances. For example, a customizable on-screen net-worth feature enables users to see the state of their finances at a glance, without the need to generate a separate report or graph.

Quicken Deluxe 98, priced at \$60,

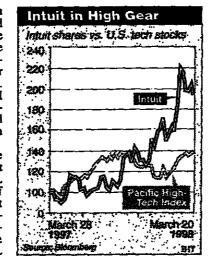
Intuit Seeks Wider Horizons

"NTUIT INC. IS established as a leader in developing original personal finance content for the desktop, but recent events have shown that the company also has ambitions to become a leading provider of on-line financial services. On Feb. 16. Intuit signed an alliance that will make it the primary source of financial programming for the personal finance and workplace channels on the America Online Inc. service.

Over the three-year term of the agreement, Intuit guarantees payment to AOL totaling \$30 million. AOL will also be eligible for a share of revenue generated through the Intuit offerings. In return, Inmit gains access to a new customer base. An average of 630,000 users access the Quotes & Portfolios area of AOL each trading day.

A spokesman for Intuit in London said the two products - Quicken personal-finance software and the AOL financial offerings - are completely separate entities. "Intuit will make money from its investment in the internet service through advertising sales. It may also get commissions from product sales. However, all financial advice will be unbiased," he said.

Intuit's biggest competitor, Mi-point in the future."



crosoft Corp., said it was planning to expand its on-line offerings, but a spokesman stressed that it did not plan to offer financial products on-line.

Philip Albinus of Home Office Computing Magazine, said he expected a flurry of agreements between Microsoft and other on-line financialservices providers. "It is not inconceivable that Intuit and Microsoft may decide to work together at some

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The Ins and Outs of Trading Securities On-Line

Virtual Marketplace Is Cheaper, Faster and Global, but Getting Started Takes Determination

By Holly Hubbard Preston

F THE IDEA of waking up in the morning, booting up your com-puter and trading stocks with the big boys excites you, then you are in luck - sort of. It is now possible to buy and sell securities, derivatives and currencies from anywhere that has access to the Internet, but it takes patience and determination, especially if you live outside the United States.

Even in America, where on-line trad-ing accounted for 17 percent of all buy and sell orders in the United States last year, according to a study by the Minneapolis brokerage house Piper Jaffray Inc., signing up for an on-line account is not exactly easy. In other countries, whether through an American broker or a local financial institution, the process orders 24 hours a day, and they Yet there are good reasons for non-

technophobic investors to give on-line trading a whirl. High among them is that commissions are low, reflecting reduced staffing costs and increased activity by investors who switch to computer accounts. Quoted American fees range as low as \$8 per trade, although most international investors will find commissions in the \$20 range more common.

There are dozens of American on-line trading services, but international investors can only access a few of them. Charles Schwab & Co., the San Francisco-based discount broker, for example, has a family of 300 regionally oriented mutual funds designed for international investors outside the United States to buy and sell via its on-line trading service, e.Schwab. According to Lisa Nash, Schwab's vice president of international marketing, more than half of the on-line trades that Schwab processes come from outside America.

E*Trade Group Inc., another U.S.based on-line heavyweight, is setting up brokerage partnerships, either through licensing or joint ventures, that will enable its customers to deal in local securities and to provide access to U.S. equities markets. The company already has an alliance with a brokerage firm in Canada and another in Australia, and it is targeting more than a dozen other markets. The next step, said Judy Balant, E*Trade's vice president of global marketing and strategic business development, is to develop localized content, including language support, at each of

sites. E*Trade, as well as Fidelity and Schwab already offer a limited degree of such support.

On-line trading is not an exclusively American province. In Japan, for example, Nomura Securities Co. and Nikko Securities Co. have begun to offer what is called "home trading" for individual domestic investors. There are a number of local securities houses around the globe, such as Discount Direct in Basel, Switzerland, that plan to go on-line in the coming weeks.

The feeling among financial insti-tutions seems to be that sooner or later, Internet trading is going to be an important part of the brokerage TECHNOLOGY business. There are good rea- 24 sons for its growing popularity with investors, aside from discount prices. Investors can place real time. They can do investment re-

search on the Internet. The brokers themselves are offering information services, such as equity research and access to financial media. These so-called sticky products help keep customers loyal.

Consider Pacific Continental Securities Corp., which is currently testing an on-line trading system that will allow non-U.S. residents and citizens to trade on the Nasdaq exchange for \$29.50 per trade plus 2 cents per share and on the American Stock Exchange for \$39.50 per trade plus 2.5 cents per share. The site is designed to give non-U.S. customers, who can currently order trades by telephone, free and convenient access to dozens of business, financial, and on-line media publications from around the globe.

rith all the attractions, you may wonder why on-line trading has not garnered an appreciable share of the international market. There are several discouraging factors, starting with the first step: while the actual trading process is fairly straightforward, getting registered is anything but.

A Canadian investor who recently tried her hand at getting registered found herself "frustrated and humbled by the experience." Although she is a regular Internet user, she was not prepared for a technological challenge presented by when she tried to sign up. The broker required her to download its country-specific on-line trading Adobe Acrobat, a graphics program that are executed when stocks move beyond

would allow her computer to read the registration forms. After hours of trying to download the software and integrate it with her system, she gave up. In the end, she settled on her own bank's online trading service that, because of an existing retirement account, waived the

That is another difficult area. Most services demand a minimum investment in the range of \$1,000 to \$5,000 in their local currency, a requirement likely to give pause to many investors who just want to try out the concept.
There are exceptions, however, notably

minimum deposit.

Schwab, which accepts international investors without a minimum although it makes Americans ante up \$2,500. Yet Schwab's website does not make clear that overseas investors can start with any

Would-be on-line investors could also find themselves turned off by the amount of time it takes to activate an account. The Internet may operate in real time, but don't expect the new accounts divisions of most on-line brokerages to. The typical start-up time to get an account rolling is two weeks or

Although a growing number of online brokers allow most paperwork other than fund transfers to take place online, there are still a number who do not. While in many cases you will be able to download the necessary forms to your computer, it likely you will have to print them out and mail them to the broker.

Two months ago, a Japanese investor tried to sign up with Charles Schwab's local on-line service. He has yet to make a trade. He has tried to correspond with Schwab via e-mail but, having received only one initial response — a telephone call demanding a bank reference, something that was not initially requested — he has begun calling Schwab's Hong Kong office directly.

The good news is that once you do get signed up, on-line accounts can be easy to use, although accounts are strictly for do-it-yourselfers. There is no broker looking out for your interests.

A growing number of on-line ser-vices do allow limit and stop-loss orders, a boon to investors who cannot constantly monitor their portfolios, but sometimes these cost more than trades placed at prevailing market prices. Without the ability to place orders that

a specified price, investors could get caught with unfavorable positions during times of market volatility.

A German investor who signed up with E*Trade reported being happy with the service, although he did note that it was not possible to get through to the California-based company during last autumn's stock market plunge. A number of leading U.S.-based on-line brokerage firms were criticized for their inability to handle customer support calls when the Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 7 percent on Oct. 27. Since then, many firms have responded by adding customer support lines.

n-line brokerage services tend to be fairly humble when it comes to admitting their failings. Boom Ltd., a year-old, Hong Kong-based on-line brokerage be patient" as it tries to iron out the wrinkles in its new regionally oriented trading service.

The key to minimizing sign-up headaches is to ask questions and clear up uncertainties before you actually register with a service.

One of the first questions to ask is whether you qualify for a service, based on your citizenship and place of residence. Service offerings and availab-ility can vary dramatically depending on who you are and where you live. For instance, Canada has limits on the amount of foreign securities that a citizen can hold in a registered retirement saving plan. That restriction has led U.S.-based on-line brokers such as Charles Schwab to offer tailored mutual funds to their on-line customers in specific overseas markets.

Not all brokerage firms go that route. American Express Co. unequivocally states that it will not accept customers who do not reside on U.S. soil, and that includes American expatriates. Lombard Discover Brokerage will open online accounts for U.S. expatriates from Dubai to Dublin but does not offer services for non-Americans. Charles Schwab accepts non-U.S. customers, including both foreigners and expatriates, but it has different offerings for

If you are a customer of the European Federal Credit Bank Ltd., a private bank based in Antigua, the bank has an online trading service that allows you to

Continued on Page 19

Don't Bail Out of Stocks Just Because the Market's in the Stratosphere

ATELY, READERS have been asking whether it is time to sell. No wonder they are worried. From Jan. 12 to March 24, a space of just 12 weeks, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 17 percent. For the year, Pfizer Inc. is up 28 percent; Ford Motor Co., 31 percent; Fidelity Select Telecommunications Fund, 29 percent.

Why not simply take a breather? With the market this high, it is bound to fall and you can buy back later, right?

Wrong. There may be reasons occasionally to sell stocks, but the overvaluation of the stock market - alleged or actual - is not one of them. I will get to the right reasons for selling below, but first a tougher question: whether to buy.

The date was May 28, 1995. The place was this very column. "With the market up 20 percent in the past 12 months and acting giddy at such a high altitude," we asked if this might not be a good time to wait - rather than purchase more shares of stock. Our suggestion: Buy.

At the time the Dow stood at 4,369. Since

then, with dividends included, it has returned 112 percent.

The purpose of this little vignette is not self-congratulation, but reader education. The answer to the buy-or-wait question is always to buy - as long as you are a long-term investor in stocks. If you are not a long-term investor (minimum seven years), then what are you doing in the stock market in the first place?

The reasons to avoid investing in stocks are multiple and persuasive: Inflation is returning, earnings are coming down, oil is getting more expensive, dividends are too low, etc.

Lined up against these is only a single powerful argument: history. Over time, the value of stocks rises because the underlying businesses increase their profits. Research shows that over the past 72 years, U.S. stocks have returned an annual average of 11 percent. If you had invested \$1,000 in a basket of large-cap stocks in 1926, you would have \$6 million today.

There is another good argument as well: Trying to guess the high point of the stock market is an impossible task. The best investors do not try. Like the great Benjamin Graham, their aim is to find wonderful businesses in which they can become a partner at a decent price. That's a tough enough task in itself. But small investors are continually tempted to dart in and out of stocks - encouraged, at least in part, by reporting on television and in

newspapers that stresses the judgment of analysts about the appropriate level of the market. This is pernicious nonsense.

JAMES GLASSMAN ON INVESTING

As Peter Lynch, former manager of the Fidelity Magellan Fund, put it, "Far more money has been lost by investors preparing for corrections than has been lost in the corrections themselves."

Dalbar Inc., a Boston research firm, has proven this proposition by using its computers to simulate the real-life returns that investors have gleaned over the past 12 years and comparing them with the returns they would have gotten if they had simply stayed in the stock market with a diversified portfolio of mutual

funds over the whole period. Actual-investor returns were just one-fourth

of market returns. Why? Because investors sell and buy at the wrong times, rather than simply

Is there ever a time to sell a stock or a mutual fund? As Philip Fisher, one of the greatest investors of all time, wrote in 1958, "If the job has been correctly done when a common stock is purchased, the time to sell it is - almost

Note the "almost." There are indeed times to sell. But to know what they are, you have to know why you bought in the first place. Let's take an easy case: Brandywine Mutual Fund.

Brandywine is a growth-stock fund run by Foster Friess, a superb stock-picker with an eye for high-technology companies. Every portfolio needs a go-go equity element and Brandy-

wine, for many years, filled the bill.

But last November Brandywine began shifting out of high-tech because Mr. Friess thought stocks were too high. By the end of the year, the fund had just 46 percent of its \$8 billion in assets in stock and 54 percent in cash and commercial paper (short-term loans to corporations). As a result. Brandywine investors have received a

return of 3 percent since the start of 1998, while the market as a whole has returned 14 percent. For the past 12 months, Brandywine has returned a paltry 15 percent, versus 42 percent for the market.

It is not the poor return that is the catalyst to sell. Rather, it's that you bought Brandywine as a growth-stock fund, and it's now a balanced or set-allocation fund.

This same reasoning should apply to individual stocks. Why did you buy shares in a company? Because it had a unique niche, with low costs and a strong management? Well, if competition suddenly appears, labor costs rise

or management changes, then consider selling. Think of selling if a key product fails. Or if the business becomes the target of new regulations. Or if consumer tastes change and the

company doesn't. Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., Inc., the New York money management and research firm, reminds us that "stock gains tend to come in brief, intense bursts. Miss enough of them and you lose all the advantage of stock investing in

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By Judith Rehat

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THE MONEY REPORT

From UGLY to SEXI, Ticker Symbols Tell Tales

By Judith Rehak

HAT MAKES ticker symbols tick? In America, some are meant to tickle your funny bone, although most countries there is no particular meaning to the short letter and number sequences that tell traders which stock is

On the London Stock Exchange, for example, little is left to the imagination. Symbols are straightforward, from two to four letters, and match a company's full name as closely as possible, such as SBRY for Sainsbury PLC, the supermarket chain. Clever symbols are shunned. "No one goes in for that here," was the firm response of Sarah Bissett, a spokesperson for the exchange.

Things are even more cut and dried on and the second the Tokyo Stock Exchange. Four-digit numbers are assigned by the exchange es Other Fun according to industry categories; for example, companies in the fisheries and forestry field start at 1300, while those in mining are numbered 1400 and up. Although Japanese in the everyday world often avoid the number 4, pronounced shi, which means death, and 9, pronounced ku, which signifies pain and suffering, the financial world appears to ignore such superstitions. For example, Tokyo Derica Co., a handbag retailer, has 9990, an ominous combination.

In Hong Kong, where symbols the situation is less clear. Li Ka-shing has obtained the prestigious I symbol for Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd., his real estate company. But the tycoon's holding vehicle, Hutchison Whampoa Ltd., is 13, as unlucky a number as exists for Westerners.

In Chinese numerology, 4 is unlucky. but it is assigned to Wharf (Holdings) Ltd., another major real-estate company that does not seem to mind. Yet the lucky number 8 belongs to Hong Kong Tele-communications Ltd., a company con-trolled by British Cable & Wireless PLC but one in which the Chinese government has an important minority stake.

In the United States, where symbols vary from one to four letters -- a fifth is sometimes added to designate a certain category of stock — some companies are far more creative, sometimes with the assistance from the exchanges.

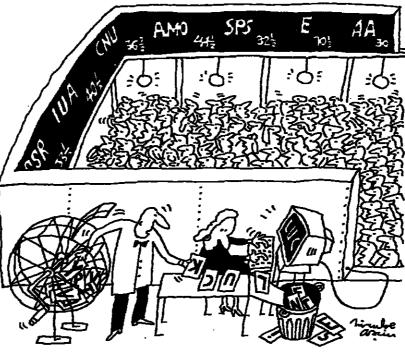
Of course, some opt for the obvious: International Business Machines Corp. is IBM, Philip Morris Cos. uses MO.

Nasdaq stocks must have four or five letters, but those listed on the exchanges can have as few as one, and single letters are sometimes coveted. On the New York Stock Exchange, AT&T Corp. is simply T, as in telephone. Other bluechip behemoths are G for Gillette Co. and C for Chrysler Corp.

Other companies, however, clearly delight in symbols that convey messages. Consider SLOT for Anchor Gaming, which makes the wildly successful Wheel of Gold slot machines and runs casinos; or First Cash Inc., a fairly anonymous name until you see its symbol, PAWN. (Yes, it owns and operates pawnshops.) Similarly, if more obviously, AMF Bowling Inc. goes by PIN.

Closed-end mutual funds also have trading symbols. Most are pedestrian. but a few show the unmistakable hand of a marketer. GRR designates the closed-end Asia Tigers Fund Inc. Last year, the only growls would have come from shareholders, whose total return on the shares was a negative 31 percent. So far this year, however, the shares have recovered more than 10 percent.

Philip Pauze, a Houston money manager, is waiting impatiently for the day when his \$5 million Pauze Tombstone Fund, an open-ended fund that invests in companies such as casket makers and



funeral homes, reaches \$10 million in assets. "You have to have that to get a symbol," he said. Meanwhile, he is delighted with RIP, the symbol for his Pauze Tombstone Common Stock Index. the brain child of marketers at the Amer-

ican Stock Exchange, where it is listed.
Can a too-clever stock symbol be a warning about a company's performance? Consider Systems of Excellence Inc., which gained notoriety not only for its symbol - SEXI - but as one of the iggest securities frauds of recent years. The chairman is currently serving a 46month prison term, after being convicted of a pump-and-dumo scheme, in which a stock is illegally touted, driving up the price, while insiders sell their holdings.

One wonders if other companies regret their choice of a symbol, especially those whose fortunes have temporarily turned sour. Ugly Duckling Corp., a Phoenix used-car dealership which also lends to borrowers with poor credit re-

cords settled for UGLY when it listed on Nasdag in 1996. (DUCK, its first choice, was already taken by Duckwall-ALCO Stores Inc., a retailer). But recently, the high-risk lending industry has suffered. and Ugly's shares have been hammered. Last week, they were trading near \$10, less than half their record.

Some stock symbols seem to be purely for fun. Take, for example, YUM, the delectable symbol for Tricon Global Restaurants Inc. Tricon is the recent spin-off from PepsiCo that owns Kentucky Fried Chicken, Taco Bell and Pizza Hut.

"That's one way to slice it," quipped Mitchell Speiser, who follows YUM for Lehman Brothers in New York. On a serious note, he has lowered his rating on Tricon to hold from buy because of concern over costs of merging the three companies. In the longer term, the company still has a lot going for it, he said. "They have the three leading brands in their categories, and they're the second-biggest international food company after McDonald's."

Restaurants, he observed, are among the biggest fans of "cute" symbols. "Look at Schlotsky's [BUNZ], which makes sandwiches, and Brinker International [EAT] which runs Chile's Bar and Grills," he said.

Occasionally even a staid industrial issuer gets carried away. Olympic Steel Inc., a Cleveland company that takes 80.000-pound (36,000-kilogram) steel coils and shapes them for end users, took a cue from its name and chose ZEUS, the supreme Greek deity, for its symbol. The stock faltered in 1997 but its earnings are again scaling Olympian heights. Mark Parr of McDonald & Co. is one of several analysts rating Olympic a "buy," projecting earnings per share of \$1.20 for this year, compared with 83 cents last year.

BRIEFCASE

Hot Stock Prospects South of the Border

Things are heating up in Mexico, according to Ron Chapman, the head of international equities at Dreyfus Corp., and he is not talking about the weather.

Dreyfus has about 3 percent of the \$400 million in its international portfolios invested in Mexico, but so far, Mr. Chapman said, "It is a position that has not worked." Yet after reassessing the out-look, he said, "We are confident that it is going to work." By work, he means Mexcan equity prices could rise 20 percent to 40 percent in the coming months.

Mr. Chapman said that trade concerns had been making investors wary of Mexico, and thanks to the recent oil producer pact to try to curb output, these worries would fade. "Mexico's problem has been the current account and what is behind the current account is oil."

Oil prices do not have to rise from current levels to make Mr. Chapman happy, it is sufficient that the threat of further declines be removed. The country's stocks are trading at about 12 times prospective 1998 earnings per share, he said, and the dissipation of trade concerns could raise that multiple as high as 16.

With that outlook, he said individual stock picking was not as important as being in the market, but he identified Grupo Carso SA as one of his core holdings, calling the conglomerate "the

best-run company in Mexico."
Elsewhere, Mr. Chapman is betting on a pop in the yen's value, and Dreyfus has about 20 percent of its international holdings in the country. He said that even though international investors have not been swayed by the details emerging from the country's latest economic package, he expects it to help the economy in the short run.

"Foreign investors are appropriately cynical about the market but we think the locals will take the market higher," he said, predicting the Nikkei Stock Average could rise about 15 percent from its current level. Additionally, he said the yen is oversold at its current value; the dollar buys about 130 yen. Over the coming four to six weeks, he said he sees a short-term strengthening in the Japanese currency combined with a rise in the stock market making for an investment opportunity.

Mr. Chapman likes the Japanese banking industry, in particular Sanwa Bank, which he said was among the best-managed, Dreyfus also holds Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, he said.

With the government anxious to pump up the economy, Mr. Chapman said he liked Okumura Corp., a construction company that is "dull but strongly financed." The company has plenty of money in the bank, he said. The prospects of doing anything with

the cash are virtually nil, but it gives you a lot of comfort.

On top of that, he said the spending package due to be announced Wednesday "will almost certainly involve some roads to mountains, and that's what Okumura does."

With a longer-term perspective, Mr. Chapman likes the Continental markets, based on the restructuring of their economies. His picks there, however, tend not to be among the industrial behemoths of yesteryear but newer, more entrepreneurial companies that have emerged from privatizations, spin-offs and initial public offerings.

One sector he is keen on is airport operators and similar companies, especially Aldeasa SA of Spain and Aeroporti di Roma SpA. Another favorite was Unique International NV of the Netherlands, which runs technical trade schools among its four business sectors and thus stands to benefit from retraining workers whose old jobs are disappearing. (The company also runs employment agencies, retail clothing stores and a surveying division.) (IHT)

New Funds for Investors **Who Want Sector Plays**

Rydex Series Trust, whose arsenal of 8 index-based funds has become increasingly popular with market-timing and other investors, is introducing 14 no-load sector funds

These funds typically invest in small slices of the market, say a particular industry or other stock group. Rydex, based in Rockville, Maryland, is offering funds covering banking, basic materials, biotechnology, consumer products, electronics, energy, energy services, financial services, health care, leisure, retailing, technology, telecommunications and transportation. The subscription period for shares is expected to close on Wednesday.

The new funds will give Rydex one of the largest selections of sector funds. Only Fidelity Investments, with a smorgasbord of 38 load funds, offers more.

Other companies offer a few sector funds, but they generally impose penalties on investors who trade quickly to encourage long-term investing. By contrast, the new Rydex funds offer unlimited trading.

Rydex said the stocks in its funds'

portfolios were chosen for their liquidity, market capitalization and correlation to the industry or sector. The funds, which levy annual expenses of 1.5 percent, will be fully invested at all times. A \$15,000 minimum applies to in-

vestors who work through investment advisers; it is \$25,000 for investors who buy directly from the company. (NYT) FOR PURTHER INFORMATION call Ryden as 1 301 468 \$520, or, toll-free in the United States, 1 800 820 0888.

Ins and Outs of Trading Securities On-Line

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Personal Finance

Continued from Page 17

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Continued from Page 17 for customers to choose from, they manually transmitted? The real efficiency, said E*Trade's Ms. Balant comes when orders can be placed, processed and returned to your account electronically. Does it really matter? It could if a stock price is moving rap-

> Depending on where you live, those low commissions may not be so low. Some countries have minimum brokerage fees. There also are a few instances where on-line brokerage firms charge nonresidents and noncitizens higher commissions than their

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regular domestic customers. The next step will be to A few services require their By choosing one of these

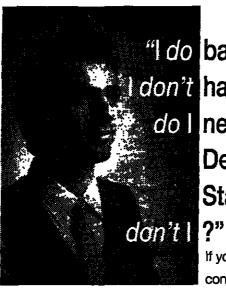
U.S. standard of encryption is 128 bit, but even the 40-bit level that is correctly even. Also be aware that on-line sider when selecting an on-level that is currently stan-brokerages often offer a hand-line brokerage. Are the trades dard in Europe is sufficient to ful of different account levels really executed on-line, or are protect investors, according

to Pete Ricketts, president of Accutrade

A final note of caution: Unless you are in some remote location where Internet access is unavailable or highly restricted, on-line veterans say to avoid direct dial-up access to on-line services. Dialup access is not only expensive, particularly if you are acsing a service outside your home market, but often requires the loading of additional software onto your computer system.

If this process seems to be daunting, rest assured that it will only get easier. Brokers and banks are facing tremenactually get yourself on-line. dous competitive pressure to offer solid, easy-to-use on-

> services are listed on Page 17 Other companies mentioned in this article include:



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Herald Cribune

WORLD ROUNDUP

Brake Protest Can't **Slow McLaren Cars**

FORMULA ONE Mika Hakkinen and David Coulthard, driving McLarens, recorded the fastest times Friday in practice for the Brazilian Grand Prix in Sao Paulo, even with their new braking sys-

tems switched off. The McLaren, Williams and Jordan teams have introduced a 'brake steer'' system alongside

their normal brakes. All three teams disabled the rearwheel braking systems Friday fol-

lowing protests by other teams, including Ferrari.

Stewards said they were investigating the protests. The system is within the spirit

of Formula One," said Ron Dennis, the McLaren designer. Dennis suggested that the Ferrari team had protested to try and find out how the system works. He also accused a rival team - later revealed to be Ferrari - of attempted espionage at the Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne, where McLaren says it caught a photographer re-lated to Ferrari's designer trying to

take pictures in its garage. (AP, AFP, Reuters)

Jamison Wins Award BASKETBALL Antawn Jamison of North Carolina was named The Associated Press's college basketball player of the year. The 6-foot-9 junior forward received 110 votes in the nationwide balloting, far ahead of Raef LaFrentz, the senior All-America center, who had 35.

Trajan Langdon, a junior guard at Duke, was third with 15 votes.

Tom Izzo of Michigan State was voted college coach of the year. Chamique Holdsclaw of Tennessee was named women's player of the year. The Tennessee coach, Pat

Summitt, was named women's

coach of the year. • Robert Traylor, a center at Michigan, plans to forgo his senior season to enter the NBA draft, The Ann Arbor News reported, Traylor averaged 16.2 points and 10.1 rebounds this season.

Waugh Hits Century

CRICKET Mark Waugh scored a 153 not out Friday as Australia made 400 all out in its first innings in the third test against India in Bangalore. Shane Warne, the Australian spinner, took two wickets as India reached 99 for three wickets in its second innings at the close to a lead by 123 runs. (Reuters)

Blatter Adds His Name to Race for Top FIFA Post

ZURICH — Sepp Blatter, general secretary of FIFA, ended months of speculation on Friday when he formally declared his candidacy for president of

the world soccer federation. Blatter declined to say which national soccer association would endorse him, but it is believed that those of Trinidad and Tobago, the United States and Australia are prepared to nominate him.

ination would be released Monday at a news conference in Paris.

Blatter officially notified Joao Havelange, the current FIFA president, of his intention on Friday.

FIFA said the details of his nom-

"FIFA is a democracy and we now have two candidates, and perhaps a third," said Havelange, who is stepping

down in June after serving for 24 years. Lennard Johansson, president of European soccer's governing body, UEFA, has declared his candidacy. Havelange has been campaigning for

Blatter, but he was more neutral on "We have two men, two qualities, two records, two administrations," he

said. "We cannot be prejudiced in favor of any one candidate."

ENGLAND Premier League clubs rected a proposal from BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster owned by Rupert Murdoch, to introduce pay-per-view cov-erage of matches next season, Mike Lee,

a league spokesman, said Friday. "There was a specific proposal put forward by BSkyB, but the club chairmen felt more background information and

more research was needed," he said. Lucrative deals with BSkyB have helped to transform the finances of English soccer. The clubs do not oppose the pay-per-view principle, but could not agree a division of revenue with BSkyB and among themselves. Some of the smaller Premier League clubs fear the move could widen the gulf between the richest clubs and the rest.

• The Italian police on Friday suspended local ticket sales for next week's European Cup Winners Cup game between Vicenza and Chelsea, fearing that the tickets could fall into the hands of disruptive English fans.

About 500 Vicenza fans lined up early Friday morning for tickets, but when the ticket office opened it was to announce only that the police had banned sales. Alcohol will be banned in all bars and restaurants in Vicenza, a city of 100,000, on the day of the



Alex Corretja preparing a return in the Florida quarterfinal in which he defeated Steve Campbell, 6-3, 6-1.

By Robin Finn KEY BISCAYNE, Florida — The 2,000 beads framed her joyful face like a white plastic halo. The fists were in the air with index fingers raised like punctuation marks. The legs performed a

modified, modernized hustle step. This was the unsubtle way that Venus Williams, who uses Muhammad Ali as a role model for championship behavior, chose to celebrate Thursday after mowing down the undisputed champion of women's tennis, Martina Hingis, at the

Lipton Championships. 'I haven't arrived yet," Williams cautioned after eliminating the defending champion, 6-2, 5-7, 6-2, in 1 hour 58 minutes. "I'm just coming, I'm on my way up.'

'Every time I lose, it's a bad loss," said Hingis, after her loss to the fellow 17-year-old whose designs on her ranking have been a matter of public record, and fodder for public spats, since last year. "Everybody's trying to beat me, and if they beat me, they know they can win the whole thing. I always wanted to beat the No. 1. Before, I was the hunter, and now I'm the hunted one."

If nothing else, this wind-wracked event has shown that no No. 1 - neither Pete Sampras nor Hingis — is invulnerable to a hard-working, hard-hitting challenger. Sampras, whose confidence was in tatters after his third-round exit,

Venus Williams Eclipses Hingis

bye if Marcelo Rios wins the men's final Sunday.
Hingis's ranking is safe for a while, but her self-confidence is at risk. That

was clear in her tentative play during her loss to the motivated Williams. For Hingis, who became history's youngest No. 1 player at this event last year, the defeat was her third in 1998 -

two of them were to Williams. She beat me now, she beat me in Sydney," said Hingis, who lost to Williams in that year-opening match in Australia. "She's got much more confidence. She controls the game a little better now than she did at the beginning, and she got smarter. She doesn't just try to hit every ball as hard as she can; she tries to mix it up, and that makes her a

better player out there." In Sydney, Hingis could explain away the loss to Williams, a player she had trounced in their U.S. Open final last September, by saying she was not quite fit following her winter holidays. On Thursday, she said she was fatigued, with some of it attributable to the tense quarterfinal confrontation she had two days earlier with 16-year-old Serena Williams, Venus's younger sister.

"I guess it's pretty difficult to play the Williams family two matches in a row," said Hingis, who saved three match points Thursday, breaking Venus Williams as she served for the match at 5-3 of the second set. But when Williams hurtled off to a 4-0 start in the final

Williams, who will climb to 10th in the world next week, was not so bold as to imply that she already has Hingis's number, but she has never been shy in

predicting that Hingis, and the No. 1 ranking, would belong to her someday.

"I don't have the same ranking she has," said Williams, who converted her fourth match point by ripping a fore-hand down the line and off the edge of Hingis's outstretched racquet, "but I

believe I'm progressing." In other matches Thursday, Reuters reported:

Anna Kournikova beat Arantxa Sanchez Vicario to set up a final of teen sensations. Kournikova beat the eighthseeded Spaniard, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3; to reach her first career final on the WTA Tour. The 25th-ranked 16-year-old became

the first player — male or female — to beat top 10 players in four consecutive matches, and she did it in four days. She earlier defeated Monica Seles, ranked No. 4. Conchita Martinez, No. 9,

and Lindsay Davenport, No. 2. In men's play, three-time Lipton champion Andre Agassi and Alex Corretja, seeded No.8, posted straight sets victories to set up a semifinal meeting.
Agassi raised his record against coru-

patriot Jeff Tarango to 7-0 with a 6-4, 6quarterfinal victory. Corretia ended the run of the Amer

ican qualifier Steve Campbell, 6-3, 6-1.
The other men's semifinal pits 20thranked Tim Henman, a Briton, against

Pesky Devils From Jersey Frustrate Colorado

The New Jersey Devils are never any fun to play. Add the Colorado Avalanche

to the teams who hate to face them. "The Devils are one of the best teams in the NHL at frustrating other teams," said Marc Crawford, the Colorado

coach, after the Devils beat his team, 2-0, Thursday in Denver. The Devils' gritty defense decided a battle of division leaders. Martin Brodeur, the Devils goalie, made 23 saves for his ninth shutout of the season

and the 31st of his career.
Petr Sykora and Denis Pederson both

scored power-play goals in the second

NHL ROUKPUP

period as the Devils ended a two-game road losing streak. Maple Leafs 1, Stars 0 In Dallas, Felix Potvin stopped 26 shots for his fifth shutout, and Sergei Berezin scored the

game's only goal as Toronto ended a five-game losing streak. Sabres 5, Canucks 2 In Vancouver, Mike Peca scored twice, including the

go-ahead goal, as Buffalo scored five

third-period goals on five consecutive shots in a fight-filled game.

Bruins 4, Flyers 2 Boston's top check-ing line of Per Johan Axelsson, Rob DiMaio and Mike Sullivan scored three goals in the first 10 minutes as the host

Bruins beat Philadelphia. Islanders 4, Penguins 3 In New York, Bryan Smolinski's power-play goal with 64 seconds left in the second period broke a tie as the Islanders beat Pittsburgh.

Panthers 5, Canadions 4 Bill Lindsay scored two goals, including the gamewinner, as host Floride hand to winner, as host Florida beat Montreal to snap a 13-game losing streak. Mighty Ducks 3, Red Wings 3 in Detroit, J.F. Jomphe's first goal of the

season helped Anaheim extend its unbeaten streak to five games. Hurricanes 4, Rangers 1 Martin Geli-nas and Keith Primeau scored in a 43-

second span of the second period as Carolina beat visiting New York.
Flames 3, Capitals 2 In Calgary, Jason
Wiemer scored the winning goal against

Washington in his debut. Blues 3. Lightning 2 Brett Hull scored twice to lead host St. Louis over Tampa

Bay. The victory snapped a four-game losing streak for the Blues. Sharks 5, Kings 2 Jeff Friesen and Tony Granato triggered a four-goal first period with power-play goals as San

Jose ended a four-game losing streak in

Broz., vs. Chinas de Gu

SCOREBOARD BASKETBALL 18 .743 19 .725 25 .643 31 .551 13%

29 23 18 27— 97 19 28 27 22— 96 Terome 19 28 27 22—96 C: Kemp 5-159-16 19, ligouzkos 9-16 1-1 17. Knight 7-10 3-3 17; T: Christie 5-14 14-16 26. Camby 6-15 10-14 22. Rebetteds—C. Si (ligouskos 12), T. 50 (Camby 13). Assists—C. 26 (Person. Knight 6), T. 21 (Christie 8). (ligot/skos 12), T. 50 (Canaby 13), Assists—C. 26 (Person, Knight 6), T. 21 (Christie 6), Milleraduse 22 21 22 14—80 Churistie 22 26 15 31—94 M: Perry 8-16 2-2 18, Mellen 7-19 2-2 18 C: Rico 8-14 8-11 27, Wesley 10-16 0-9 21, Responses—M. S3 (Johnson 17), C. 53 (Geiger 15), Assists—M. 11 (Perry 4), C. 24 (Phills 6). Vencover 28 27 27 18—102 Pertional 25 29 25 29—108 V: Reeves 12-19 7-8 31, Abdor-Roblen 6-14 7-7 19; P. Sobonis 11-17 2-424, B. Gernt 6-10

7: 79; P. Sabonis 11-17-4 31, ADDD-ROMRIS-14 7-7 19; P. Sabonis 11-17-24 42, B.Cremt 6-10 6-8 18. Rebeumis—V. 41 (Smith, Reeves, Chilcutt 77; P. 59 (B.Grunt 12), Assists—V. 28 (Mayberry 7), P. 20 (Sabonis 6). Sactifia 20 23 17 26—91

EUROLEAGUE QUARTERPINALS
2ND LEG IN BEST-OF-THIRDE SERIES
CSKA Moscow 77, Portizon Belgrade 52
Series 1-1. Third match April 2 in Belgra

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Etes Pilsen, Turkey, 59 Benetion Treviso, 58 Series 1-1. Third motch April 2 in Treviso. Alba Berlin 58, AEK Athens 82 AEK won 2-0, qualified for Final Four. n Balogno 56, Kinder Belogna : on 2-0. availfied for Final Four. MEN'S NIT THURSDAY IN NEW YORK Georgia 95, Fresno State 79

ICEHOCKEY NHL STANDINGS EASTERN

Corelina

151 Period: New York, Kovalev 17

(Beukeboard 2d Period: Corolina, C'Nelli 16

(Roberts, Kapanen) 3, Carolina, Gelinas 12,

4, Carolina, Primeau 23 (Sheppanen) 3d

Period: Carolina, O'Nelli 17 (Kapanen,

Emerson) (pp), Shots on goal: New York 7-3-

6—16. Carolina 3-9-17--29. Go York, Richter, Carolina, Kidd.

2 1 2—6 Ist Period: F-Whitney 26, (pp). 2, M.-Corson 18 (Kolva, Malickhov) 2, F-Svehio 7 (Whitney, Dvorak) 2d Period: M-Rucjosky 20 (Damphousse, Motakhov) (pp). 5, M-

Green 16 (Young) 2d Period: D-Kaziov 23 (Larionov, Brown) (pp). 4. A-Jomphe 1 (Nielson, Severyn) 3d Period: D-Shanahan

Colorado 0 0 1st Period: None. 2d Period: N.J.-Sy 15 (Andreychuk, Pederson) (pp). 2 NJ.-Pederson 12 (Andreychuk, Sykara) (pp). 36 Perisak Nona. Shots on gott: NJ.- 8-11-10—29. C- 99-5—21. Godises: NJ.-Brodeu. C-Billington. Roy. Washington. 1 1 9—2

Westington 1 1 9-2 Calgary 0 3 8-3 1st Period: W-Konowalchuk 7 (Witt, Juneou) 34 Period: W-Cortes 16 (Tikkanen, Krygier) 3, C-Cussels 12 (Morris, Alison) 4, C-Fleury 25 (Damenichell, Hulse) 5, C-Wiemer 9 (Fleury, Morris) (pp.), 3d Period: Vencouver 2 0 6—2 MAJOR LEAG 1st Perford: V-Bure 44 (Messier, May), 2, V- Mianni 1, Tampa Bay 0

May 9 (Messics, Burc) 2d Perfedi None, 3d Perfed: B-Woolley 8 (Plante, Barneby) 4, B-Sonderson 10 (Princeil, Barneby) 5, B-Peco 17 (Ward, Shannon) 6, B-Zhithik 13 (Plante, Barneby) 7, B-Peco 18 (Word) (pp.) Sisté se padi: B-4-9-11—24, V-7-9-7—23, Godiles: B-Shleids, V-Irbe, Snow.

BASEBALL EXHIBITION BASEBALL

Moniteal 1, St. Louis 0, 10 innings Atlante 3, N.Y. Mets 3, 12 innings Seattle 6. San Diega 4

Kansas Cily 9, Cleveland 2 CRICKET OUTH AFRICA VS. SRI LANKS SECOND TEST, FIRST DAY

NAY IN CENTURION, SOUTH AFRICA Sri Lanka: 165 for three MEDIA 43. AU THIRD AND FINAL TEST, 3D DAY

RUGBY UNION SUPER 12

SOCCER LIBERTADORES COP Vasco da Gorna 3. Greanio 0 DUTCH FIRST DIVISION

TENNIS MY IN KEY BISCAYNE, FLOR Achiela: 21

Venus Williams (11), U.S., def. Martin Venue Visualis (1), U.S., dez. Priorisio Hrigis (1), Swiftz, 6-2, 5-7, 6-2, Anna Kau-nikova, Russia. def. Arango Sanchez Vicario (8), Spoin, 3-4, 6-1, 6-1. WOMEN'S DOUB **GUARTERFRIALS** Conchito Martinez, Sp., and Patricia To-tobiri, Arg., def. Alexandra Fuesi and Noth-nie Toutiet, Fr. 6-2, 3-4, 7-6 (7-5); Martina Hingls, Switz, and Jane Nevolna, Casch R., def. Elena Litthoryteyn, Rus., and Ai Sug-

lyama, Japan, 6-4, 6-3, Miller & STREET Andre Agossi, U.S., def. Jeff Torongo, U.S., -4, 6-3; Alex Corrello (8). Spain, def. Sleve Impbell, U.S., 6-3, 6-1.

ampheli, U.S., 6-3, 6-1, 6-1, MINY'S POURLES QUARTERFRIALS
Jonathan Stark and Alex O'Brien, S. Address Dovid Adoms and Wayne Ferreira, S., Africa, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3; Mark Knowies, Bohamas, and Daniel Nestoc Can, def. Sandon Sholle, Australia, and Cyril Sulc, Casch R., 6-1, 7-6 (7-2); Ellis Ferreira, S. Africa, and Rick Leach, U.S., def. Neil Birood, Eng., and Plet Norval, S. Africa, 4-64

THE WEEK AHEAD

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 AUTO PLAGUNO, Motegi. Japan — Indy-sz Championstip Cars, Budwelser 500, BASKETBALL, Son Artonio — men, U.S. bliege championship tornament, Final Foer, to March 30.

CET. Cerdurien Port, South Africa South Africa vs. Sit Lanto. 2d lest to March 31: Calcutte, India — India vs. Austrolia. 3d lest, to March 28: Harare, Zimbobwe — one-day Internation. 3t. Zimbobwe vs. Paidston.

day internation...t. Zimbobwe vs. Paldstan.

GOLF, Solo. Japon — mar. ISB Open. Is

GOLF, Solo. Japon — Mar. ISB Open. Is

GOLF, Solo. Japon — Mar. ISB Open. Is

March 29. Partie Verbre Becch. Florida —

men. The Players Champioraship, to March

29. Hovesse Rachmee, Ned Al Sheba, Dubal.

United Arab Emisses — Dubal World Cup.

ROWBER, Landon — men. Combridge
Codord Bad Race.

RUASEY UNION, Hong Kong — Hong

Kong Severs, to March 29; Various sites —

Super 12 Northern Transvad vs. ACT; West

Province vs. New South Wales; Ologo vs. ince vs. New South Wales, Ologo vs. Golden Cats.

Shear Track Team Champleoships, to Mench
29: Calgary, Conada — World Shigle Distance
Champleoships, to March 29.
**Tabrets, Key Blacayna, Florida — men,
women, The Lipton Champleoships, to
March 29: Casabianca, Morocca — men,
son.
**The Lipton Champleoships, to
March 29: Casabianca, Morocca — men,
son.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

ATHLETICS, Los Angeles — Los Angeles Mercition.

ALTO RACINO, Interlogos, Brazil — Formula One Brazilian Grand Priz.

CREGISTET, Harate, Zenbabwe — 1-day
International Zimbabwe vs. Pakistana Bridgetrown, Burbades — 1-day Interpational
West Indies vs. England.

**PAURES SEATTERA, Minneapolis, Minnesola — World Championships, to April S.

MOTORCYCLE RACING, Shan Alem,

Monday, March 30

ses, Hilton Head Island, South Car-women, Family Circle Magazine Cup. TUESDAY, MARCH 31

BABBBALL, New York — U.S. Major sugue Baseboll, opening day.

**Soncesse: UEFA Cup semilimais, 1st legi:
stiellico Modrid vs. Lazis; Initer Milaon vs. Sparati Mascow. Cupa Libertadores, first round;
sucarrananga. Colonabla, vs. Borcelona,
cuodori Germio, Brazil, vs. Chivos de
Suedolojara. Medica; Coto Coto, Chile, vs.
himpio, Perogucy Penarul, Urugeny, vs.
sollvas, Balkia.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 CRICKET, Bridgetown. Barbados — ane-tay international. West Indies vs. England. SUFFRANCINO. Minneapolis — USS, U.S. toy international, West Indies vs. England.
swrmpens. A Minneapolis.— USS, U.S.
Valional Championships, to April 5:
SCOCESS. European Champions Cup,
sentificats. Ist leg: Juventus, Italy, vs. AS
danaca, France; Real Madrid, Spatu, vs.
Sorussia Dorhmund, Germany. Copa Liberudores, List round, Allanza Lima, Penu, vs.
John, Ancertina.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2 GOLF, New Orleans — ment, Freepart-McDemos? Classic to April 5: Scatispidele, Artzong — serviors, The Tradition, to April 5: Lincoln, California — women, Longs Drugs Challenge, to April 5: EQUESTRIAN, Gateborg, Sweden — World Cup Finals, to April 4: SOCCERE various sites. — European Cup Winners' Cup, semifinals, 1st leg: VFB Statisport, Germany, vs. Locomolif Mascaw, Russia's Vicenze, India vs. Chelsen, Erndish Cono igari, Germany, vs. Lacomoliv Moscow, Rus-sia; Vicenza, Italy, vs. Chelsea, English, Copa potores: 1st round, River Picte. Arger

FRIDAY, APRIL 3 BABEBALL, Yokyo — Japanese Major League Baseball, Centrol League opens seaCRECKET, Durban, South Africa — 1-day International South Africa vs. Parkiston. RUGBY URGON, Super 12: Wellington vs. Golden Cafe; Western Province vs. ACT;

Catalica, Chi., vs. Olimpia, Par.; Nacional Ur., TEMBRESS, Dovis Cup, To April 5. World Group, 1st round: Showled vs. Swadens Germany vs. South Africa: Brozil vs. Spain; Switzerland vs. Crech Republic Italy vs. 1g., dic Australia vs. Zhanbabwer Belgium [art]. Neitherlands: United States vs. Russiz. Euro/African Zone, Group L 1st round: France vs. Findmit Komania vs. Norwen; Israel vs. Austria Britain vs. Ularaine. America Zone, Group I, 2d round: Argentino vs. Chile guay, Asia/Oceania Zohe, Group I, 2d round: South Korea vs. Uzbekiston, Japan vs. New Zeoland. Asia/Oceania Zone, Group II, 1st round: Philippines vs. Theliand: Talwar Hong Kong: Pakiskan vs. Padific Ocea Iran vs. Qafer.

toy international, West Indies vs. England.

GURLING, Kambops, British Columbia Flanders Classic

Nationa. 1284 United, Super 12: Otago vs. The Ducensland vs. Auckland. Twicken-

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

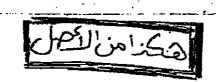
AMERICAN FOOTBALL, verious sites — IFL Europe, Borcelone vs. Scotland; Eng-ATHLETICS, Ports - Ports Moroth AUTO RACING. Long Beach, Californio Indy-car, Championship Cars. Grand Prix **AUTO RACI** of Long Beach.

1-day imemonenay sourin earlies va. Si. Visicent — cricket. 1-day international. West ladies vs. England. MOTORCYCLING, Suzuko, Japan pariese Grand Pris. Japanese Grand Pris.

RIJENTY UNISOS, Various sites — Supcini 12: Canterbury vs. Northern Transvool: New South Wales vs. Caastal Sharks. Warnbley, England —Five Nations, Wales vs. France.

Motor Racing - CART FedEx Championship ** tune in this morning 10.30 (CET)

Eurosport, Europe's No.1 Sports TV Channel, available on cable and satellite



SPORTS

Cubs Face a Summer Without Santa

MIAMI — Another baseball season starts Tuesday, and no one will be able to replace Harry Caray. No one will

Caray (rhymes with Harry) was the Santa Claus of summer. As the play-by-play announcer for the Chicago Cubs, he would visit potentially millions of homes almost daily from April through September. The Cubs play 162 games a year, enerally losing most of them, but Harry was able to cure audiences of their des-

pair simply by looking at the camera.

He had a thick pair of lips that he could fasten around a bottle of beer like an oring. His tiny eyes were framed by thick glasses with huge square lenses designed to enhance vision in the early hours of the morning. He had a staggering drawl of a voice. For his postgame summation, the microphone he was trying to hold would move back and forth below his

chin teasingly like a martini shaker. Нату collapsed in a restaurant last month and died several days later in a hospital in Southern California. It turned out that he was 84, or six years older than the age he had given his employer.

He was orphaned at the age of 9 For 25 years after World War II, he announced the games of the St. Louis Cardinals on the radio. At that time he was the best announcer in the game, unick-witted and knowledgeable, as

well as being an authentic rascal. But then many of his colleagues were rascals, too. In the early days of radio, even before Harry came along, announcers would sit in a windowless room miles away from the ballpark and announce the game as if it were right there in front of them, their narrative based on the pitch-by-pitch reports fed to them by a ticker. They would rap a pencil against the table to recreate the bat striking the

In America/IAN THOMSEN

ball. Ronald Reagan did this kind of the time, and to this day I have never work for a while, and never really quit

doing it, some would say. In 1968, when Harry was working in St. Louis, he was struck down by a car. The accident almost killed him. Months went by before he made his first public appearance, hobbling onto the diamond before a Cardinals game. He tossed aside one crutch and the applause turned into cheers. He threw down the other crutch and it sounded like a World Series crowd. Harry admitted later that he had been walking without those

crutches for weeks. Harry lost that job supposedly because he became more than friends with a daughter-in-law of the Busch family, the beer moguls who seemed to own everything in

St. Louis, including the Cardinals. In the 1970s, he landed in Chicago, announcing White Sox games. Harry was never better at his job than when he was working for Bill Veeck, the eccentric owner of the White Sox. Previously, Veeck (rhymes with wreck, as he noted in the title of his autobiography) owned the St. Louis Browns, for whom he famously enlisted a midget, Eddie Gaedel, to pinch-hit in 1951.

The White Sox had been (and to this day remain) the secondary baseball team in Chicago ever since White Sox players fixed the 1919 World Series. In Veeck's refurbished bleachers at Comiskey Park on the South Side of Chicago, you could take a shower, have your hair cut and sit near Harry Caray, who on Saturday afternoons would broadcast games there in the outfield, shirtless, while his drunken audience cheered. He drank many, many beers.

I was attending college in Chicago at

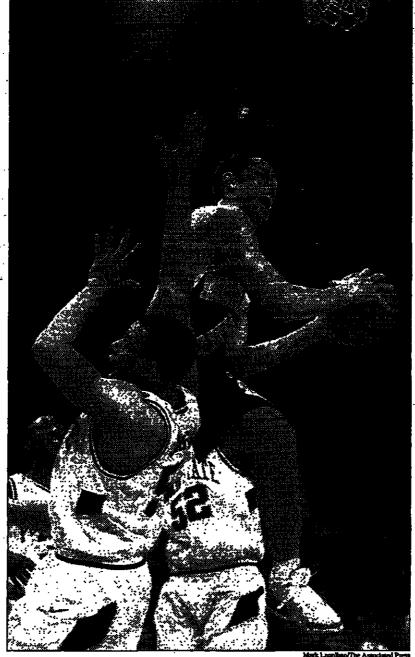
heard a nastier, more honest or more entertaining sports announcer. Tony LaRussa was the manager of the White Sox in those days and Caray ran him out of town with the help of Jimmy Piersall, his color commentator. Piersail, who as a player for the Boston Red Sox suffered a nervous breakdown, was once portrayed by Anthony Perkins in the movie,

'Fear Strikes Out.'' "Jimmy," Harry would interrupt his colleague to say, "you're still crazy."
To be honest, Harry sold out a few ears later when he moved to Chicago's North Side to announce for the Cubs. He

was not nearly as critical of the Cubs as he could have been. Basically, he be-came the adorable mascot of a hopeless, hapless and harmless team. He would sit in the announcers' box

high above home plate with his fishing net, which he used for scooping foul balls out of the air. During the seventhinning stretch, he would lead the Wrigley Field crowds in singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame," a tune that doesn't hold much water anymore unless sung by an old-timer like Harry.

The Cubs are going to miss Harry desperately. He made losing palatable. The team might find now that the fans are less forgiving than they used to be. These days, clubs prefer their announcers to be uncontroversial, uncritical. Such plain voices remind audiences that the game is a business. The players are making millions of dollars — and so, too, was Harry. But when he had trouble pronouncing a player's name, as he often did, he sounded like someone from the days of radio. Ian Thomsen is a senior writer for Sports Illustrated magazine.



GOPHER THE HOOP! — Sam Jacobson of Minnesota flying past Carl Jackson of Penn State in the NIT Final in Madison Square Garden on Thursday. Jacobson scored 23 points as the Golden Gophers won, 79-72.

Gambling: **A Shadow Creeps Over Final Four**

By Jack Curry New York Tanes Service

SAN ANTONIO - The hysteria of the Final Four has shifted to discussions about fixing games after two former Northwestern basketball players were

indicted on gambling charges.
One college coach almost dropped the phone Thursday when he was told, another said he felt nauseated and another called college gambling a time bomb. So all the fancy welcoming ban-ners, shiny pins and souvenirs could not obscure a problem that has plagued college athletics for at least half a century - a problem that stole some attention from college basketball's marquee

Kevin O'Neill, who just finished his first season as coach of Northwestern, said he did not know the school was being investigated before he accepted the job, but he added that he would have taken it anyway.

"I think it's tragic any time this happens because the young people get in-volved in things they can't handle." he said. "That's the worst part of it."

Cedric Dempsey, the executive di-rector of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, wanted to talk about a thrilling tournament that has already featured 17 games decided by three points or fewer.

Instead, Dempsey discussed the possibility of enforcing a zero-tolerance policy for future gambling violations. He talked about adding to the one person who handles gambling issues for the NCAA and about how, for the first time, players competing in the Final Four will be addressed by the FBL The meetings had been planned before the Northwestem indictments were disclosed.

"I think illegal sports wagering is probably the most critical issue we have in intercollegiate athletics today," he said. "It cuts at the fiber of what competition is about."

Bill Saum, the NCAA representative who deals with gambling, held up a postcard with "Don't Bet On It" printed on the front and telephone numbers for him and FBI agents on the back. They will be given to players on North Car-olina, Stanford, Utah and Kentucky in case they have concerns this weekend.

"I do believe what we can do is educate student-athletes on this issue not being a victimless crime," Saum said. "It's not the new recreation of the '90s. There are victims. There are serious consequences in becoming involved in this activity.

Dempsey said that studies had shown that college students spend more on gambling than alcohol and that the FBI had told him that \$80 billion to \$120 billion is bet illegally each year, com-pared with \$2 billion wagered legally. The NCAA now has a computer to monitor changes in betting lines since as much as \$4.5 billion is bet on this townsment.

While Dempsey said he was uncertain if the timing of the arrests was coincidental, one official from the Big Ten said he was told the announcement was made two days away from the Final Four for the maximum impact.

We intend to use this as an educational tool," Saum said. "It's a wakeup call for all of college athletics."

I CAN HEAR YOUR HEART

CESSENT MILH LHEN MAKE IH

MARSHMALLON BITS, TOO, BUT

IT FOR ME.

Stillness, Magic and a Fine 'Old Dame'

By William Gildea

GREENSBORO, North Carolina -It seemed like a day from the distant past. Traffic was stopped on North Dudley Street, cars had their engines off, people were leaning in the open windows on the driver's side talking to one another, the sun was up and the heat was bearing down. A long, slow freight train crept across the street as the red lights blinked at the crossing gate. The World War Memorial Stadium was on the other side of the tracks.

This is not just any minor-league baseball park. It is allegedly the oldest ballpark in America where the national pastime is still played professionally. It squats in a gully next to a creek, built in 1926 and honoring those who died in World War I. The concrete structure, which will challenge a wrecking ball someday, is shaped like a reverse J.

A long stretch of stands extends in a straight line out to left field from home plate, with the remaining fishhook of seats curved around behind the plate to just beyond first base. The seats stop there because that is where the creek flows. The water runs beneath right field and emerges beyond the right-centerfield fence. Above right field are three power lines. If a ball hits a wire and

lands in fair ground, it is in play. "It's the same concept as a ball that hits a speaker in a domed stadium," said John Frey, general manager of the park's Greensboro Bats, the Class A South Atlantic League affiliate of the New York Yankees.

Nearby Durham has a sparkling new park, which has enabled the Durham Bulls to vault from the Carolina League to the Class AAA International League this season.

"I went over to Durham with a couple of friends last season," Frey said, "and somebody said, "Now what don't you like about this place?' We looked around and the answer was nothing."

The new structure replaced the beloved Durham Athletic Park, the DAP, where the movie "Bull Dutham" was filmed. Old park or new, any minorleague game is bound to bring happiness; \$6 in Greensboro buys a seat in the first row behind home plate.

But there is something magical about the last old parks, still standing in Greensboro and Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Davenport, Iowa, flush against the Mississippi River, and other places to be happened upon when driving somewhere in the summertime. Maybe it's just the notion of the actress Susan Sarandon, as Annie, walking over the crest of the hill in the opening evening scene of "Bull Durham," and suddenly there ahead of her is the park with its lights somehow blazing as they never really do at a night game.

Greensboro has that feeling. It is a place where you can still sit up under a few sections covered by an old slanting roof and imagine a ball from Don Matpull the ball, clearing the electric wires and the creek and the 16-foot signboard to?" he asked. fence and half the rows of parked cars beyond it. Such reverie is possible even now, waiting for the season to start in

the emptiness of a spring afternoon. A young man out by second base is suctioning water off the infield dirt with a

pump.
"If we get some wind and some sun, we'll be fine," said Jake Holloway, lugging a trash can of water across the clipped perennial rye of the outfield toward a drain. You could run forever on that grass, it was so wonderfully hard-packed and buoyantly green.
"Good infield, too," said Mel Lan-

ford, walking up. He is Jake's boss, the

"Eighty percent of the game is played in the dirt," he said. "The entire offensive team plays in the dirt and better than 60 percent of the defensive team. Only got three guys standing in the grass while the game is on. That's a lot of grass for three guys."

That's baseball. It's not just slow, it is standing still. Who stands still in America today except three outfielders? The game must be "marketed" now and there must be "entertainment." The minor leagues are no different from the majors, just simpler, between-innings promotions include the dizzy bat races, sumo wrestling and water balloon tosses. There may be no going back to just sitting there, recollecting, passing on baseball stories.

One of those power lines in right field, Lanford noted, does not power anything anymore, but that is no reason to take it down. "Why would you want

"She's a grand old dame," Lanford said of the ballpark. That she is, and long may she continue to be.

Playoff-Trail Clincher: **Blazers Swat Grizzlies**

PORTLAND, Oregon - Damon Stoudamire returned from a 10-game stay on the injured list, and the Portland Trail Blazers gained the victory they needed to clinch a National Basketball Association playoff berth for

the 16th consecutive season. Arvydas Sabonis scored 24 points and Walt Williams had 20 as Portland beat the Vancouver Grizzlies, 108-

NBA ROUNDUP 102, Thursday night. Stoudamire, who

had been out with a badly sprained ankle, had modest numbers - 11 points and 5 assists - against the Grizzlies. But he played 40 minutes.

Williams, who was acquired with Stoudamire from the Toronto Raptors in February, scored 15 of his points in the fourth quarter helping the Blazers overcome the 84-79 lead the Grizzlies held after three quarters.

The Blazers, whose playoff streak is the longest in the NBA, snapped a three-game losing streak with the vic-

tory. The Grizzlies lost for the 23d time in their last 26 games and wasted a 31-point effort by Bryant Reeves.

'It was a war out there between me and Sabonis," Reeves said, "but it was no different than any other night. I had a good game, but it means nothing when you lose like that."

Warriors 98, Sonice 91 In Oakland. Clarence Weatherspoon scored 12 second-half points, including a decisive tip-in with 1:14 remaining, as Golden State shocked Seattle.

Cavaliers 97, Raptors 96 In Toronto, Shawn Kemp scored 19 points and Marcus Camby missed a last-second putback as Cleveland moved 21/2 games ahead of the New Jersey Nets and the Washington Wizards, who are tied for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

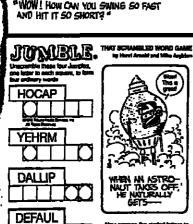
Hornets 94, Bucks 80 In Charlotte. Glen Rice scored eight straight points as part of a 12-0 run by Charlotte to open the fourth quarter. Rice hit two 3-pointers and a dunk during the spurt that gave the Homets a 75-66 lead and their 15th victory in 16 games.

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DENNIS THE MENACE



"WOW! How can you swing so fact



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JIM DAVIS 5-28

BEETLE BAILEY

HERE'S ANOTHER SWEEPSTAKES
THING FOR YOU... BOY THEY SURE
ARE GETTING AND THEY SURE





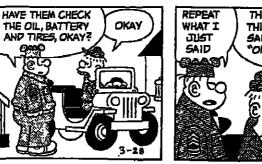
















THEY USED TO ! (WHAT DO THEY SAY IN VERY PINE) SAY NOW? PRINT, "YOUR 2







CALVIN AND HOBBES

MUCH AS I LOVE MY
"CHOCOLATE FROSTED CRINCILY
SUGAR BOMBS," THE BEST
PART IS AFTER







NON SEQUITUR

PERSONS A CLARIFICATION IS IN ORDER. THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE OPENING FOR A CRITIC OF OTHER MEDIA.



HES IN THE ER ROOM

DOONESBURY

SOMETIMES I EAT TWO OR THREE BOMLS OF THIS.







DAVE BARRY

Spiders à la Carte

MIAMI—I have received some important information via a letter from Claire Nordstrum, 13, a student in Wisconsin (state motto: "Moo"). Claire states that her science teacher told the class that "it's a proven fact that on average a person eats six spiders in a year." Another science fact this teacher revealed, according to Claire, is that "wood ticks breathe through their batte". breathe through their butts."

This sounds logical to me, since if a wood tick had its whole head burrowed into your body, it wouldn't be able to breathe through its face (assuming ticks have faces) unless it was wearing some kind of tiny snorkel, which is unlikely. So if Claire's teacher is correct about the wood ticks, it stands to reason that he is also correct about the average human eating six spiders a year, although I honestly can't remember ever deliberately eating a single one, even in college.

One possible explanation for this discrepancy is that, while most of us do not ear spiders, a few people — and here I am thinking of Martha Stewart — gobble them by the handful, thereby raising the national average. But the

Are they getting into the food chain through frogs?

more likely explanation is that spiders are sneaking into our food supply. We have observed this type of behavior in certain other types of animals, specifically frogs. If you are a regular reader of this column and have been taking your medication, you no doubt recall my reports on the following documented

 In 1993, a New Hampshire consumer found a deceased frog baked onto a pretzel.

 In 1995, a West Virginia consumer found a deceased frog in a frozen chicken Cantonese dinner. Later in 1995, a consumer at a Mexican restaurant in

California found a deceased frog in a taco.
In journalism terms, the first incident constituted what we call an "outbreak" of frogs showing up in food. With the second incident, it became a "rash"; and with the third, it officially became a "wave." I regret to report that we now have to upgrade it to the status of "epidemic," because of a news item, sent in by alert reader Bill Starr, from the front page of the Eeb 12 1997 edition of the Brazil (Indiana) Tirres This of the Feb. 12, 1997, edition of the Brazil (Indiana) Times. This item concerns a man who was putting some sauce on a Taco Bell double-decker taco, when he saw something sticking out. He pulled on the thing, and it was a deceased frog, which was taken into custody by the Indiana State Board of Health, which I imagine will assign it a public defender who will have it filing appeals at the taxpayers' expense for decades. But the point is: For every frog that is apprehended by the authorities, hundreds, perhaps thousands, escape detection and are eaten by consumers such as yourself. And it is entirely possible that if you were to open up the stomachs of those frogs, you would find that a certain percentage — let us say 85 — contain spiders. Thus the scientific conclusion we must come to is: You eat spiders. Accept it! Look yourself in the mirror and say: "I am a spider-eater! No different from Martha Stewart!"

And then, you can always switch to squirrel brains.

You need not be alarmed about this. In the words of the American Medical Association: "It is perfectly safe to eat spiders, unless of course one of them is a pregnant female, in which case you will become a giant buffet for sev-

eral thousand hungry baby spiders looking to chow down on your pancreas." So don't worry! Go ahead and enjoy your favorite dish! Unless your favorite dish is squirrel brains. I say this in light of an Associated Press report, sent in by hundreds of alert readers, concerning two Kentucky doctors who wrote a medical-journal article warning that eating squirrel brains — which are considered a delicacy in parts of Kentucky — can be dangerous, because the squirrels might be carrying a form of

The AP report states that Kentucky hunters kill and eat 1.5 million squirrels per year, and that some people also cook road-kill squirrels, which is alarming because "a crazed squirrel may be more likely to dash into traffic and get killed."
This report raises some troubling questions, including:

1. Since when do squirrels have brains? 2. Have squirrels and cows been mating? How?

3. Doesn't a person who eats road-kill rodent organs pretty much deserve to die?

I think Oprah should do a show on this important topic and get slapped with a huge lawsuit by the Kentucky Squirrel Ranchers Association. Because we are talking about the public health here; we cannot just ignore it and burrow our heads into the sand. But if we do, we should remember to breathe like wood ticks.

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Yasmina Reza and the Anatomy of a Play

By Mary Blume International Herald Tribune

DARIS - All over the world, in 20 languages, audiences laugh at the opening premise of "Art," which is that someone named Serge has forked over a large sum for an all-white painting. "They laugh the minute they see it, everywhere. That's what's odd," says the French author, Yasmina Reza, adding that in New York, where it opened last month, a critic remarked that an all-white painting just shows how backward the French are: To be up to date, the work should have work with some of France's finest

But the play isn't about modishness or play, "Conversations agree un enphilistinism or, despite its title, about art. The subject is the friendship between Serge, Marc Funeral) at the age of 28 in 1987. and Yvan and the purchase of the painting is "I didn't have enough confidence merely the catalyst for the recriminations and revelations that kill it. "Art" is very funny but, says Reza, also tragic. "It is the destruction of a friendship, after all."

Friendship, she says, is as fragile as love. 'When a friendship breaks it is terribly upsetting; it is a construction, like love." True, and while we can only hope that love is for life, we honestly believe that friendship is.

life, we honestly believe that menusing is.

The use of the painting as a hook came when a friend, Serge Goldszal, to whom "Art" is dedicated, bought a similar canvas and showed it to Reza, who burst out laughing. "I laughed and said you must be mad and then we both laughed. He loves the painting and transit might not and the laughed because our knew I might not, and we laughed because our complicity was in no way spoiled. But if he hadn't laughed and had thought that the choice revealed his friends in another light

Here she is talking about friendship between a man and woman. Friendship between men is different, she says. "I think it is terribly rigid. Often men have no real friends, French men at least. They have colleagues, contacts but not friends and when they do it is a very strong, possessive, rigid. All the men who saw 'Art' said it is amazing, how did you understand this or that? I said I understood nothing, I just noticed."

"Art" opened in 1994 in Paris, where

foreign rights were bought by Sean Connery. In London the producers put out blurbs saying "funny," "you will laugh," and so on, to Reza's irritation. "I said put 'intelligent' but no, it was funny, funny funny. I think it's more than that." When her fourth play, "The Unexpected Man," (L'Homme du prestigious RSC production with a dream weep three minutes later.'

cast of Eileen Atkins and Michael Gambon, Reza thinks she will be taken more seriously. The two-character play takes place in a train compartment and consists almost entirely of interior monologues.

Like "Art" (90 minutes) it is very short. Reza detests intermissions and tends, economically, to write short for a small cast and a single set. She came to playwriting after an unspectacular acting career in which she was lucky enough to stage actors. She wrote her first terrement" (Conversations After a 'I didn't have ecough confidence

in my writing to launch into something literary but I liked things that had a plot, that were lively and sensual, so I wrote for the theater. My acting background was fantastic because I would never have written like that — the silences, the few things said and the many unsaid — if I hadn't had the experience of working with great actors, I saw how they work and to what point playwrights write too much and I think that determined my style.

waiting, which is a large part of the acting profession. And now she sees another advantage in having switched to writing. "I see the problems for actresses of my age. After you are 30 you are finished, while as a writer I am considered very young."

Her wry humor, she thinks, is in her genes. -"I am very gay by nature," she says. "but I cannot say I am happy." Her father's family. Sephardic Jews, emigrated from Persia to Russia and then to Paris when he was 5. He was an engineer who ended in the shirt business and an impassioned amateur pi-anist, like his daughter. Her mother came from Budapest and played the violin. Reza is nervously vivacious with a big laugh but her work is informed by nostalgia, rupture, a sense of loss.

"Absolutely," she says. The sadness, she thinks, is for a lost world she never knew. When her father died, she felt she had lost not only a friend and accomplice but someone who had "the folly and humor of a Jew of his hasard) opens in London on April 15 in a time, that ability to laugh at the world and



Reza is not made, she says, for Reza's play "Art" deconstructs friendship.

This winter she brought out "Hammerklavier" (Albin Michel), a series of sketches about her friends, her two children and above all her father. She looks on the very affecting book as a photo album, a snapshot of, say, her father bursting with pride in 1987 because his daughter's first play has been produced and accosting the former prime minister, Raymond Barre, outside the Brasserie Lipp to tell him the good

While Yasmina wishes the earth would swallow her, Barre courteously pretends to have heard of her and when her father praises Barre's love of music and starts humming a bit of Mozart (K.516), Barre joins in and for a few minutes the two men sing together on the Rue de Rennes, then shake hands and take their leave. "My father could do that to people, he could make a minister sing in the

street, very naturally and very well."
With "Hammerklavier" Reza says she is being seen for the first time as a literary writer. She was quite cross at those critics who, praising "Art," praised it as first-rate middlebrow comedy, the word middlebrow being about as bad as you can get in France. Does it bother her not to be considered an intellectual?

"I think there is a double answer. Yes it bothers me—the part of me that is the that is the many trifling. That is to say, I would like to be seen as the summit of intelligence and intellectuality, so I am cross. On the other hand, deep down I don't give a damn. I know what I do, I know what I want, I know what I want to say. I know that 'The Unexpected Man' absolutely cannot be seen as boulevard comedy, but my silly side

is cross." She is convinced that one can say the deepest things simply. "But you must be careful or you will be taken for middlebrow." So that really did hurt you? "The most pointless wounds are the deepest," she replies, laughing. Despite her vivacity she is clearly thin-skinned. In "Hammerklavier" she writes that she identifies with those who have been abandoned.

"I think that we are always abandoned in life, every day by something, someone I think that moving through life means being

abandoned, and abandoning. I have a lot of sympathy for those who are alone. I understand them is the less than a lot of the less than a am not the slightest bit alone."

The melancholy of "Hanner kiavier"

was being composed during the worldwide triumph of "Art."

"Ir's odd because I wrote that book during my moment of glory. Glory, success, one

doesn't metamorphose, one stays what one is." Glory she sees as fugitive and absurd. "And it's a curse to see it like that because I am incapable of taking advantage of it. I am an idiot not to be able to enjoy it without

knowing how absurd it is."

But she is not so foolish as to see her what would it be like if there hadn't been this? That's what I say to myself when I am

success as nothing. "It's not nothing, and you know why? Because one says to oneself thinking about the absurd side. I could have just been writing in a corner and stuffing pages in a drawer, and that would surely be

PEOPLE



Leonardo DiCaprio: A nude in his future?

Leonardo DiCaprio can help it, wife added. Top prize in the kiss-athon and the star of "Titanic" has sued to at the Harley Davidson Café in New prevent Playgirl from publishing photographs of him naked in its July issue. The suit claims Playgirl officials have contest sponsors opted to give the trip to refused to allow DiCaprio to view the both the Griwolds and to the runners-up, pictures or reveal their source, and seeks unspecified damages for invasion of privacy. The photos also are being used to promote Playgirl's Internet site, said Di-Caprio, who also stars in "The Man in the Iron Mask." Brad Pitt filed a similar lawsuit against Playgirl in July over publication of nude pictures. A judge later prohibited further distribution of the magazine.

A Michigan couple has won a contest for the world's longest kiss — locking lips for 29 hours. Roberta and Mark Griswold outlasted eight other couples in the kissing contest, with their closest competition dropping out 22 minutes earlier. Asked afterward to name the key to their success, a weary Griswold said, 'Comfortable underwear.'' "And

TUDE in Playgirl magazine? Not if we've been practicing for 16 years," his poor and downtrodden. The film, dir-York was a week's trip to Paris. But the final two couples lasted so long that the Chike Lamar Carter and Menthia Clark of New Orleans.

> The country star Garth Brooks and rapper Wastren G. are dropping trade-mark infringement suits against each other over use of the letter in their logos. Warren G. uses a fattened "G" with logo is an unadorned "g" in a circle.

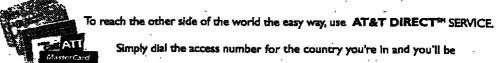
A film based on a play written by Pope John Paul II in the 1940s when he was still a priest was screened at the Vatican God's Brother," the film depicts the life of a 19th-century Polish painter-turned-

ected by Krzysztof Zanussi and coproduced by Italy's Trans World Film and the Polish company Tor, stars the American actor Scott Wilson as Chmielowski alongside a Polish cast.

The Duchess of York has filmed her first sitcom, teaming up with the cast of the hit American show "Friends" for a cameo appearance. Fergie has a small speaking part in the segment filmed in London. The show was in Britain this week to film the final episode of the current series in which Ross (David 'funk music'' written inside. Brooks's Schwimmer) is due to marry Emily, 49 played by the British actress Helen Bax-

Random House has sued the astronomer Carl Sagan's estate and wife, Ann for the first time on Friday. Titled "Our Druyan, for the return of more than \$1.2 million in advances — plus interest for books he never completed. Sagan monk, Adam Chmielowski, who was died Dec. 20, 1996, at age 62 of a bone beatified in 1989 for his devotion to the marrow disease.





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